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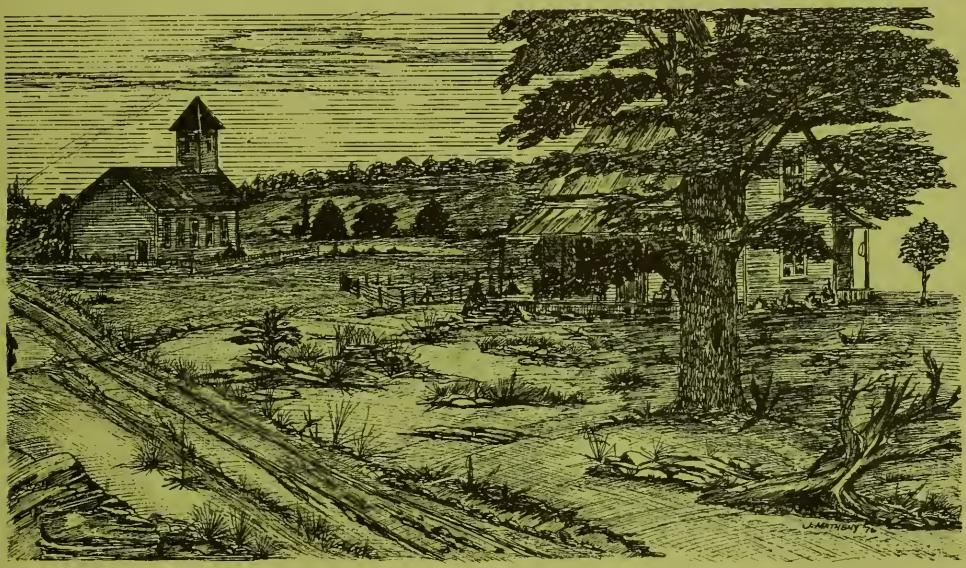
# Rutherford County Historical Society

## Publication No. 7



HOPEWELL CHURCH

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## Summer 1976

Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37130

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RUTHERFORD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PUBLICATION NO. 7

## The Cover

Hopewell Church near Milton, Tennessee, about 1925.

Hopewell Church was established in 1816 about one mile north of Milton. In 1840, four acres of ground were purchased on a hill at the eastern edge of Milton on the road to Porterfield and a church was built. In 1900, a new church building was constructed on this lot and is shown on the cover as it appeared about 1925. This building was demolished in 1938, and the present brick building was erected in Milton on the site of a Cumberland Presbyterian Church which had burned in 1917. The sketch of Hopewell Church is from a postcard owned by Mr. Clyde Brantley of Milton, Tennessee. The sketch was done by Mr. Jim Matheny of Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Mr. Matheny is owner and operator of an artist-sign firm on South Church Street in Murfreesboro. He is a member of the Society and a brother of Dot Matheny, the Society's efficient secretary-treasurer.

Thanks to Rutherford County Judge Ben Hall McFarlin and Mrs. Susan R. Jones for their work in the publishing of this book.

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

1976

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RUTHERFORD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PUBLICATION NO. 7

Published by the

RUTHERFORD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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PUBLICATION NO. 7 (Limited Edition-350 copies) is distributed to members of the Society. The annual membership dues is $5.00 (Family-$7.00) which includes the regular publications and the monthly NEWSLETTER to all members. Additional copies of PUBLICATION NO. 7 may be obtained at $3.00 per copy.

All correspondence concerning additional copies, contributions to future issues, and membership should be addressed to

Rutherford County Historical Society
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# FOREWORD

The Rutherford County Historical Society was organized with the idea of writing a new general county history. Someday this project may be accomplished, but at the present time the Society does not plan to even begin working on a general history. The Publications issued twice each year contain about 100 pages each of material on various phases of our past. The Historical Society is well pleased with the way our history is being published in this manner. A general history of the county could not have many of the small everyday, humorous, and local facts that make interesting reading. Eight or ten years from now a general county history could be written using some of the material from each of our past publications.

The Publications are furnished to each Society member (those who have paid their dues), and the remainder are sold. At the present time Publications No. 1, No. 2, and No. 4 are sold out. Plans are being made to publish a 2nd edition of No. 1. We have about 40 copies of Publications No. 3 and No. 5 left, and these will be gone by the end of this year. The Historical Society published 350 copies of No. 6, and they are going rapidly.

These Publications have not appeared in any old book or antique markets and apparently are being kept by their owners. They are not published by the Rutherford County Historical Society as a profit making or collectors item. The Society wants these booklets to be low in cost and easily accessible to people inter-

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ested in history. Copies of the Publications are furnished to Highland Rim, Linebaugh, Smyrna, Middle Tennessee State University, and Eagleville Library as a public service.

The Rutherford County Historical Society is an incorporated non profit group. The Society tries to present articles in each publication that are accurate and of interest to all residents of our county. It is realized that some facts of history cannot be proven, but the authors of articles in the publication are asked to use footnotes or give their sources for their material if possible. The Society has also tried to cover the entire geographical area of Rutherford County and not just Murfreesboro (which so far has had little coveage) or a few prominent early families. The Publication is not a genealogical magazine either, although every article published does contain much genealogical material. The Rutherford County Historical Society is quite proud of its Publications and plans to continue publishing them in place of writing a general history.

The Board of Directors

Fred Brigance
Mary Hall
Ernest Johns

TENNESSEE AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL PROJECT

of the

COLONEL HARDY MURFREE CHAPTER, DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

The publication of the records of the Hopewell Presbyterian Church of Rutherford County, Tennessee is the major bicentennial project for 1976 of the Colonel Hardy Murfree Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution. The records of this historic church, established in 1812, were discovered quite by accident by Laura Lou White Coffey of Lawrenceburg, Tennessee. It is apparent to the reader that this church record and others of a similar nature are invaluable to the genealogist and historian. We of Rutherford County are indeed fortunate that Mrs. Coffey realized the relevance of this material to our local research and we are deeply indebted to her for her contribution to our heritage.

Mrs. Coffey is a Cumberland Presbyterian, an active member of the Buffalo River Chapter, DAR, and of the Lawrence County Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy. Largely due to her efforts genealogical materials declared useless by Court authorities in Lawrence County were saved from the dump and these have subsequently been published in her column "From the Old Courthouse Attic" in the Democratic Union, Lawrenceburg Newspaper. Other materials copied by Mrs. Coffey include records of the Mt. Moriah Cumberland Presbyterian Church and Sharon Cumberland Presbyterian Church, both in Giles County, Tennessee.

The Colonel Hardy Murfree Chapter expresses gratitude to the Rutherford County Historical Society for their cooperation in the publication of the record.

Mrs. Walter H. King

## WANTED FOR FUTURE PUBLICATIONS

Articles on the following subjects:

- Index of Publications 1-5 of Rutherford County Historical Society
- History of the Square in Murfreesboro
- Nice's Mill or Ward Mill
- Wright Mill (recently burned)
- The Hoover family of Hoover's Gap.
- The Sikes Family and their old home
- Material on the southern part of Rutherford County - Rockvale, Christiana, Eagleville and other communities
- Civil War letters and diaries from Rutherford County people also Mexican War
- Church histories (these do not have to be pre civil war or very early as Hopewell Presbyterian
- Militia documents - letters, orders, rosters
- Copies of old pictures if they can be identified
- Old hotels and taverns of Murfreesboro
- List of Civil War soldiers from Rutherford County.

Anyone having material can contact Mr. Gene H. Sloan, 728 Greenland Drive, Murfreesboro, Telephone: 893-5427. If material or pictures are submitted the Society will have a copy made for the publication and the original will be promptly returned to the owner.

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# THE ANNIVERSARY OF TWO CHURCHES

(Stone's River and Hopewell)

By

Moses Cranor. 1916

As we gather today to celebrate the Anniversary of Hopewell and Stone's River Presbyterian Churches, it is my purpose to make it a history of Faith and facts for the churches at these places.

Faith is a reliance on testimony that which is real truth, a desire for something good, with the evidence of trust that will be a proof of our belief. The Characters to be represented will furnish an adequate conception of the Divinely vital and exuberant doctrine of Presbyterianism. Our creed is a Christian faith briefly summed up in the two Catechisms and the Confession of Faith, not three but one, with the word of God as guide.

What is the chief end of man? It is to Glorify God and enjoy him forever. The historic faith of the Presbyterian Church as a body in latter years has been assailed with the most searching criticism by a merciless vivid and eloquent abuse, however, she stands today a monument towering over the frailties of man. These fathers and mothers, creators of the modern world, born of heroes, saints and martyrs, crown it the greatest Creed of Christendom. I will not stop here to defend its origin, history of government. One thing I will say, it has "Thus saith the Lord" for every word it has incorporated therein.

As the footprints of the red man of the forest were scarcely gone, when a steady stream of Scotch and Irish with a mixed blood of thirsty liberty loving souls, could be seen wending their way across the mountain plateaus of the east, along blood stained beaten trails that the savage

hunter trod, as he fled before civilization's massive wheels, which has transformed these fertile valleys and her circling hillsides, from natures garb to one of lovely grandure, that seldom fails to attract the passer-by, and bring from their lips praises of delight. As we muse over the all absorbing thought of one hundred years ago, and those devout men and women who banded themselves together to serve the Lord God of their fathers, in a land which has already been won for freedom by bravery. These men were of commanding personality, of strong faith and courage, of intense energy, who exercised a wonderful influence upon the moral and spiritual life and ideals, over a large portion of the surrounding country. In their dwellings nestling along the range of hillsides to the East, running North and South; between two noted points or peaks that stand as sentinels of trust, they are known as Solomon George on the north and Pilate Knob on the South. The Bible was their inheritance. Their sanctuary was around the hearthstone, a place of more vital religion in that day than all others combined. A need that has been sorely neglected. The two points above mentioned, one north, the other twelve miles south, in sight of each other, stand as sentinels to the faith and brotherly love that existed between the two extremes.

Why were these two churches, Hopewell and Stone's River organized on the same day, April 1, 1816? At or near the two points designated, by the Rev. Jesse Alexander, a licentiate of Shiloh Presbytery. (Their place of worship in the few years that had past was near the center under no name that either of our records mention, in brotherly love and feeling no doubt the two extremes were anxious for a place of worship dividing near the center.

Hopewell, one mile east of north from her present position; two miles south of that noted peak, Solomon George, whose head was covered with a luxurient forest looking down upon the rudely constructed log house near the old burying ground, where many of their members lie beneath the sod awaiting the

resurrection morn. Two of their number, the records tell us, were taken to the beyond in the first year of Hopewell's organization, Capt. Thomas Black, a soldier of Revolutionary fame, and his wife, Polly (Polk) Black. The blood of these two pioneers flows in the veins of over one fourth the membership of Hopewell today. Out of over two hundred of their descendants we can trace fully three fourths that were and are members of some branch of the Presbyterian church. A history that few of the churches of this Presbytery can parallel.

Hopewell was organized April 1, 1816 as above stated with members then in communion 38, six of which were elected and installed elders, namely: Ezekiel Sharp, William Rea, Zacheus Alexander, Ephram Farr, Joseph Sharp & Abner Alexander, Clerk of Session. Hopewell received as stated supply from Rev. Jesse Alexander, Licentiate, from Apr. 1, 1816 to Apr. 7, 1817. Hopewell's history I will divide into four periods.

Period 1, was one of 15 years with no very active demonstration recorded. Each year had one informal record of additions, deaths and dismissals, with only three session meetings in regular form recorded. Members added on certificate & examination, 62. Baptized adults, 10, Infants 39, benevolent causes $54.00. Deaths 14, Dismissed 15. Suspended for heresy, 2. The report to Shiloh Presbytery for April 1831 was 40 members. In concluding this the 1st period, three new elders had been elected and installed, William McKnight (Dr. Billy) usually called, was a ruling elder from Stone River Church received into Hopewell in 1825. On July 24, 1829, he was chosed Clerk of Session. Elders John H. Baxter and David Morrison were elected and installed July 30, 1830. Of the old remaining elders, William Rea was born in Ireland Mar. 6, 1752. He professed religion at the age of 18 years, remained an elder in Hopewell 40 years, died at the age of 104 years. The other, Abner

Alexander, serving as Clerk of Session 13 years. (So far unable to find his record).

Period 2. In the beginning this Period of 28 years, from the past you can plainly see that Hopewell, with all her struggles, barely held her own. I hope that no one will feel that it is my purpose to digress in the least from the subject, for if their ever was two sister churches organized on the same day, by the same man, out of a united brotherhood, who had been working together in love and unity, it was Hopewell and Stone River. It may be safely said that nine tenths of the past one hundred years the same ministers have filled the pulpits of both churches.

A little ways up Stone's River near its banks stands that noted Peak, (Pilate Knob) already mentioned as a Sentinel of peace and unity. Until 50 years ago her head was uncovered by the ravages of war by Federal authority. Redoubts were built constructed upon her crest and a light tower on her summit that displayed a beacon of calmness and peace, or the red flashing signal of the approaching enemy.

This was a period of great religious activity. It is likely that in this decade Hopewell was removed to her present location, though the records make no mention of it anywhere. At this time the congregations felt the need of closer relations, and on Sept. 23, 1831, the two congregations met in Camp Meeting at the Contor Nursery or McKnight's Camp-ground, near the dividing line between the two congregations. The Camp-ground, was situated on a plat of two or more acres, in the center was a large shed 35 or 40 by 60 to 80 ft. On three sides of this square were rudely constructed tents, some of logs others of board and plank. Around this large auditorium were large beech trees that furnished ample shade. The seats were the time honored puncheon and a new straw floor for each general occasion. In the rear of the pulpit the full width of the structure, was a shed for the colored man and his

family, the escort of his master. The entrance was from the east, there was a main aisle with two or more cross aisles forming side entrances. There were meetings once or twice a year which were looked forward to with faith and supplication for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, upon them and their efforts. Hundreds upon hundreds attended these meetings. Order was the prevailing characteristic. It seemed that the power of God and his presence was felt and recognized by all. As many as fifteen visiting Presbyterian ministers are recorded as attending during a meeting; two to four and 5 at a time. I will name a few of them-Murfreesboro's greatly beloved, Dr. Wm. Eagleton, Rev. M. Marshall, Amzi Bradshaw, William Porter, E. T. Brantley and Dr. A. H. Dashiell, that noted ministorial orator, of persuasive language and convincing power. It was no wonder that men thronged these meetings, coming two and two and others alone, some walking others in deep meditation, wending their way to the near by grove, as the sun was inking behind the western hills while twilight came, later the world wrapped in nature's night. The burdened cry from many a soul could be audibly heard as it was wafted on the stillness of the breeze, that some poor perishing souls that night might find Jesus precious to their souls. The records mention 10, 25, 50, and 75 being gathered into the garnor of the Lord; and Hopewell, Stone River, Cripple Creek and Murfreesboro were edified and built up in the most holy faith. I find that in the 18 meetings recorded 535 persons made pro. of religion.

On Nov. 10, 1832, Elder David Morrison (after serving 2 yrs.) and family were dismissed, moving out of Church bounds, May 31, 1840., Elder William McKnight departed this life. He served as Clerk of Session 11 years. Apr. 12, 1841 Bro. Williamson Cosby was chosed Clerk of Session. Oct. 25, 1842 he was dismissed at his own request in good standing, serving 1 year as clerk. Oct. 25, 1842 Bro. David McKnight was elected clerk of Session, serving 8 yrs. Apr. 1, 1849, Bros. Dennis Hogwood & William R. Alexander were elected and

ordained elders in Hopewell. Oct. 9th of the same year, 1849, Elder William R. Alexander departed this life. He was a son of the beloved Pastor., who was near three score and ten years. Apr. 14, 1850, Elder Dennis Hogwood was chosen Clerk of Session.

July 20, 1854, $235.35 was collected from Hopewell and Stone River Churches to pay for the Presbyterian church at Nashville, Tenn.

During this period Hopewell had 190 additions, 26 deaths, 95 dismissed, 143 Baptisms. Church expenses $905.00, Benevolent causes $604.00, totaling $1509.00.

April 9, 1859 the report to Shiloh Presbytery was, Rev. Jesse Alexander pastor, John H. Bastor and Dennis Hogwood elders, 111 members.

Period 3. The period from Apr. 9, 1859 for seven years, was one of the greatest declines in all of Hopewell's history. First, at the beginning she was an independent Church, with no ecclesiastical connection anywhere. The few years preceding this there was considerable agitation in the higher church courts over two or more much debated questions which I can explain more fully by giving a copy of a Church meeting held in Hopewell May 5, 1859.

Congregational meeting

Hopewell's members were called together by order of Session on the 5th day of May 1859 for the purpose of choosing their ecclesiastical connection. The meeting was constituted by calling Rev. Jesse Alexander to the chair, and L. B. Creson, clerk. Rev. Jesse Alexander opened the meeting with prayer, he also explained the object of the meeting. A committee of three, to wit, John H. Baxter, D. Hogwood and George Peoples, was appointed to draft and present suitable resolutions which were severally considered and adopted.

Whereas the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, divided in the year 1838 on the subject of the Excinding Acts of 1837, and formed two Assemblies known by New and Old School, and whereas a number of the

Presbyterians belonging to the New School Assembly being aggrieved with the continued agitation of the subject of slavery in this body, withdrew from said assembly in 1857 convened at Cleveland, Ohio and formed a Synod at Knoxville, Tenn. in 1858, known by the name of the United Synod of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

And whereas Shiloh Presbytery to which we belonged was not one of the number that withdrew, but disolved by a vote of her own body on the 9th day of April 1859; we being thereby destitute of any ecclesiastical connection whatever, "Therefore resolved, first that it is expedient that we form a connection with some ecclesiastical body."

"Resolved secondly, that we approve of the resolution of the United Synod in excluding the agitation of slavery from its judiciary."

"Resolved thirdly, that we also approve of its explanation and mode of adopting the confession of faith, as embracing the doctrines contained in the Bible."

Resolved fourthly, that we in uniting with said Synod, make no sacrifice of principal or doctrine."

"Resolved fifthly, that we the undersigned members of Hopewell Church, unite with said Synod through some one of her Presbyteries as soon as possible."

Fifty eight of the One hundred and eleven members of last report signed the above preamble and resolutions. To this report two were added and 5 dismissed.

Oct. 6, 1860, Elder D. Hogwood reported to North Alabama Presbytery, two elders and 55 members uniting with said Presbytery. Following all this came the War Between the States.

On the 15th day of June 1863, Rev. Jesse Alexander, Hopewell's Pastor, departed this life and was laid to rest in the city of the dead among his bretheren and friends, awaiting the final summons. His age was 82 years and

5 months. Two elders, John H. Baxter and Dennis Hogwood were left with the burdens of Hopewell to bear. God in his mercy seeing Hopewell's few upon their knees sent visiting ministers to their relief. Such men as the Revs. A. Bradshaw, M. Marshall, E. T. Brantley, Henry C. Smith and others; Rev. H. C. Smith serving near 2 years.

Sept. 25, 1865, a call for a congregational meeting, for the purpose of electing elders. Oct. 7, 1865, H. A. Baxter was ordained elder by the Rev. Henry C. Smith.

Nearing the closing scenes of this the third Period, a peace and harmony were being promulgated throughout our beloved land. Hopewell looking back upon her records find only three reports to Presbytery, with 21 additions, 7 dismissed, 1 expelled and 15 deaths, with 19 baptisms. For church expenses $155.00, for benevolent causes $74.00, with 10 regular sessional meetings recorded in the 7 years period.

A report to North Alabama Presbytery, April 9, 1867, with 3 elders, 54 members, closed the first 50 years of Hopewell's organization.

Period 4. In the beginning this the 4th or last period including a space of fifty years of Hopewell's history, it is my purpose to deal with facts and figures concerning the active forces of this organization, concluding with a brief summary of the two Churches, with a few sketches from life.

Sept. 16, 1867, Rev. M. A. McFeaters was called as stated supply for Hopewell and Stone River. For over three years he served these people. He was a man of deep consecration and earnest piety, decisive in his denunciation of evil and wrong doing. It was on Oct. 4, 1867 that he with Rev. W. L. Rosser began a seven days meeting in Hopewell, which resulted in 14 professions, and the church members greatly refreshed. Mar. 7, 1871, Rev. Robert Caldwell was chosed as supply. He was a man of strong character, showing distinctive qualities and traits for good. Apr. 22, 1872 the records state

that Xanthius A. Baxter was chosed delegate to Nashville Presbytery, the first date of said Presbytery mentioned in our record. The Rev. Robert Caldwell being called elsewhere, served Hopewell only one year.

May 18, 1872, Rev. W. L. Rosser was called to this field as supply. He was one who in other days had stood upon the tented field pouring forth words of comfort and consolation with warning against sin, and a judgement to come, to his comrades in arms. For nine years he held the banner of Prince Emmanuel aloft in Hopewell's rank. In this decade her prosperity was above normal. Nov. 5, 1847 three elders were elected. Bros. J. C. Herndon, H. G. Johns and Jas. M. Weatherly were ordained and three Deacons, the first that Hopewell ever recorded. Bros. Robert F. Baxter, Jas. N. McKnight and Wm. B. White were duly elected and installed Deacons.

Apr. 1, 1875, the first Elders and Decons' meeting was organized in Hopewell. Dec. 19, 1875, elder Jas. M. Weatherly was relieved from the active duties of the eldership. Aug. 21, 1876, Ruling Elder X. A. Baxter, departed this life after serving 11 years, calmly trusting in Jesus, with suitable resolutions recorded in Book 3, page 139. Oct. 25, 1880, ruling elder John H. Baxter, a Father in Israel for more than 57 years, departed this life. On May 28th, 1881 Bro. G. W. Lorance was duly elected and ordained a ruling elder in Hopewell, which was a period of religious activity both in numbers and in the spirit of giving, exceeding all past records. Rev. W. L. Rosser was called to another field of labor.

Dec. 31, 1881, the Rev. Geo. E. Thompson a young man fresh from the S.W.P. University and Union Theological Seminary, Hampton Sidney, Va., was called as supply. But the minutes of Sept. 2, 1882 recorded that Hopewell call the Rev. G. E. Thompson to become her pastor, to serve this church one half his time, at a salary of $225.00 per year. On Sept. 14, 1882, Nashville Presbytery, convened in Hopewell, a meeting long to be remembered by many,

for Rev. G. E. Thompson was ordained pastor of Hopewell. And on the 15th one of the flowers of Hopewell's young manhood was received under the care of Presbytery as a candidate for the Gospel ministry, Rev. John R. Herndon, a man who has proven himself worthy the calling accepted.

June 3, 1883, Elder Dennis Hogwood resigned as Clerk of Session, serving 33 years. Elder H. G. Johns was chosen as Clerk of Session July 5, 1885. Bros. H. B. Hogwood and S. P. Brantley were elected elders and Wm. Hooper, as deacon, being installed by Rev. G. E. Thompson to their several officers. Aug. 6, 1885, Deacon Robt. F. Baxter departed this life, serving over ten years.

On May 16, 1886, Bros. W. W. Rion and W. H. Herndon, were elected and installed as Deacons. Mar. 3rd 1888 the two above Deacons named tendered their resignation leaving temporarily the bounds of this church, May 4, 1889 the Rev. G. E. Thompson resigned as Pastor of Hopewell serving 7½ yr. Several months passed before another Pastor was secured. This was a Season of unpleasantness for it is with deep regret, and a feeling of reverance to record the first and only Stigma that rests upon Hopewells fair name, by referring you to the records of July 7th 1889, for in this meeting the Eldership divided upon the question at issue. And in the controversy later on, one member of the session was called before a commission to answer charges, who was Exhonerated by them, and two others Apr. 5, 1890 resigned from the active duties of the Eldership. I will only refer you to the record Book No. 4 Page 121 &C Oct. 6, 1889 Rev. J. W. Mosely, was called as stated supply, Serving near two year then He was called to another field of labor Apr. 4, 1891--Hopewell remained without a leader and preaching for one year, for it was on Apr. 3, 1892 that the Rev. A. J. Crane a Licentiate of Knoxville Presbytery canvassed the field and on Apr. 10, 1892 He Rev. A. J. Crane was by a Congrational meeting unanimously called Pastor of Hopewell. On Feb. 15,

1893 Deacon Wm B. White departed this life, Serving Nineteen years, March 24, 1893. Elder H. G. Johns resigned as clerk of Session, having served ten years. Elder J. C. Herndon was Elected in his Stead Aug. 31st., 1893 Elder H. G. Johns. At his own request was dismissed to unite with the Edgefield Presbyterian Church Nashville, Tenn., Serving Hopewell Nineteen yrs. Apr. 5th, 1896 Bros. Andrew McKnight and Jesse Alexander were duly Elected and Installed Deacons Dec. 3rd, 1899 Bros. Wm. D. Black and Andrew McKnight previously Elected were Installed and Ordained with S. P. Brantley, who was reinstalled and Ordained as ruling Elders, in Hopewell. It was on Feb. 4, 1900 Bros. Wilson Dement and Wm. D. Brantley were duly Elected and installed as Deacons. Feb. 10, 1902 Deacon Wm. Hooper was dismissed at his own request to the first Presbyterian church Murfreesboro, Tenn. Serving Sixteen yrs.

By an order of Session a congregational meeting for July 6, 1902 was called to accept the resignation of Rev. A.J. Crane one who had served Hopewell for ten years was accepted with Suitable resolution recorded in Book 4 Page 178 July 11th, 1902 Elder S. P. Brantley departed this life, Serving as Elder Seventeen years. It was on April 6th, 1903 Rev. T. A. Patton was called as stated supply serving Hopewell in that capacity for five yrs. Aug. 30, 1903 Elder J. C. Herndon resigned as clerk of Session, having served ten yr. Moses Cranor was chosen Clerk of session on the above date-Oct. 5, 1903 Deacon Jesse Alexander was dismissed by a letter at his own request, having served seven years No. 1st, 1903 Elder J. C. Herndon at his own request was granted a letter to unite with the 1st Presbyterian church of Murfreesboro, Tenn. having served as Elder twenty nine years On July 4, 1904, Elder Geo. W. Lorance departed this life serving Hopewell twenty three years. It was on Aug. 3, 1905 that Elder Dennis Hogwood a father of Israel in Hopewell ranks departed to the beyond in the triumph of Faith having served Hopewell as Elder over fifty six years. On May 2nd, 1907 Deacon Jas. N. McKnight departed this life

Serving Hopewell as Deacon thirty three years Presbyterian church Serving Hopewell 8 yr. Nov. 1907 Elder A. M. McKnight united with Wartace Dec. 29, 1907 Bros. Wm. D. Brantley and Wilson Dement were Elected and ordained Elders and Elden Young was elected and installed Deacon by Rev. T. A. Patton who before closing the Service called for a dissolution of his labors with this church to answer a call to the Monroe Harding Orphanage which was unanimously granted with reluctance. It was during the intermission between Rev. T. A. Pattons two Services that Bro. A. A. DuBois a Baptist Minister, who had united with the first Presbyterian church Nashville, Tenn. was sent to this field with the recommendation of his Pastor Dr. Wm. Anderson who acted as supply until Sept. 1908 when He Entered the S.W.P. University under the care of Nashville Presbytery as a candidate for the Gospel Ministry Nov. 1st 1908 The Second Call for the Rev. T. A. Patton was made for him as Pastor-Feb. 7, 1909 Bros. Neil White and Chrle. E. Furgason were duly Elected and installed as Deacons by the Rev. T. A. Patton Dec. 26, 1909 Rev. T. A. Patton having Served Hopewell one year as Pastor called a congregational Meeting for the purpose of dissolving the Pastoral relation between himself, and Hopewell, asking Nashville Presbytery to grant the request which was done.

The year 1910 was one that ought to be long remembered by Hopewell members, from the fact of having no direct service, only through the Kindness of the Rev. L. A. Street, Pastor of the U.S.A. Church while Serving his own people in Hopewell, which had been tendered them to use although the officers of Hopewell had five Sessional meetings, and all reports made to Presbytery the delegates failed to attend Said Presbytery that met at Clarksville, Tenn. Apr. 26, 1911. The above report included 40 members in Hopewell.

This was the condition found Existing Mar. 5, 1911 when a congregational meeting was called for the purpose of calling the Rev. R. Q. Riley as Pastor, of Hopewell who accepted the call.

It was Oct. 15, 1812 that the two congregations U. S. and the U.S.A. were united by the action of both their Presbyteries, and confirmed by Dr. W. L. Caldwell chairman of the Home Mission committee of the Nashville Presbytery Twenty members were added to Hopewell's list Embracing three Elders, G. W. Oakley, R. H. Summar, and Wm A. Baxter together with two Deacons, Jas. A. Baxter & Hop Smith Increasing Hopewell official forces to six Elder, and five deacons On Mar. 2nd 1913 Deacon Neil White at his own request was granted a letter to unite with the 1st. Presbyterian church Murfreesboro, Tenn. Serving 4 yrs. It was on Oct. 3rd, 1915 our dear Bro. Elder G. W. Oakley departed this life From 1816 to 1916 5 meetings of Presbytery were held at Hopewell. Presbytery of Shiloh met April 30, 1850 - April 10, 1858 Nashville Presbytery met Sept. 4, 1873, Sept. 14, 1882, Sept. 12, 1899.

During these 100 years the Ch. has had a total of 529 members, her present membership is----. Her contributions to Benevolent causes have been generous. There have been 3 church buildings.

Brief Summary of the past one hundred years work of the two churches, Hopewell and Stone River five meetings of Presbytery have convened in Hopewell , Shiloh on Apr. 13, 1850 Apr. 10, 1858 Nashville Presbytery Sept. 4, 1873 Sept. 14, 1882, Sept. 2, 1899, Total 529 Mem. 393 ad. one Ex. 98 ad on Cirt. 186 Dissm. 9 Expelled 170 Deaths 350 Baptised.

Financial Report

| | |
|---|---|
| for church work and maintaining the Gospel at Home in Hopewell | $18,552 |
| to benevolent causes | 3,816 |
| beside three church Houses and one Manse it being Burned | 22,368 |

the other now Standing was the combined efforts of Hopewell Stone River Cripple Creek and the community at large.

Stones River Church

Organized Apr. 1, 1816 as above Stated with 30 members in Communion five were chosen Elders David Andrews, Jas. Bowl John Henderson, John Dickson, and Charles Ready Clk. of session Their records were Kept similar to those of

Hopewell. It is through the Kindness of her clerk that I make the following statement Total membership 509 members ad on Ed. 429 Ad. on Cirt 50 Dismissed 170 Deaths 93 Here is a lesson for us in the two congregations there are over 400 unaccounted for it is Just as Jesus Said to the one Leper "Were there not ten cleansed, Where are the nine" Jno. 17-12. Five Pastors served Hopewell & Stones R. about Seventy years ten others as supply thirty years with twenty five Elders and Eight clerks of Session, three of them chosed from the laity. The 15 Deacons have served forty two years. In this computation, I have been as brief as I possibly could.

In Conclusion

I wish to give you a short Sketch of four of Hopewells most Self Sacrificing ones. 1st. Rev. Jesse Alexander, Pastor 47 yrs. through all his ministerial labors upon Earth.
2nd. Elder J. H. Baxter for 50 years
3rd. " Dennis Hogwood, Clk of session for thirty three years.
4th. " Geo. Peoples a consistent member 47 yrs.

A Sketch from life

Rev. Jesse Alexander Born Jan. 15, 1781 moved to Tennessee Oct. 1802 Entered the Grammar School May 1st, 1806 was Licensed to Preach the Gospel Sept. 2nd, 1814 was Ordained Pastor of the churches of Stone River and Hopewell Apr. 7th 1817 was married to Eliza Rea, Aug. 8, 1820. To this union ten children were born, Seven of whom lived to maturity two are living, one a member of Hopewell, the other of Spring Creek Presbyterian church. The object of this Sketch was rather tall but slender and Straight as an arrow. His countenance was solid, genial, and gentle. His bearing was dignified with a tendency to influence others for good. Living as he did on the borders of three counties. He was Extensively Known as he went from place to place, bearing the messages of love and peace. In all his relations with the world, he was the accomplished gentleman in his personal life he was above all things the humble and devoted christian in Home affairs, he was a man of Energy and

force, as he went from his Study to the farm and his work Shop that furnished him ample support with a bearing of dignity yet genial with affectionate feeling the very Soul of Hospitality. A home of relief, for the friend the weary, and the desolate. In his Pastorate, he was lovingly tender and gracious. For forty seven yrs. he went in and out before this people winning their love, and commanding their respect yea a veneration, of all classes in the community from the highest to the humblest, in his latter years when he became totally blind, it did not detain him, from duty to his appointments, or prevent him from Service to his Lord and Master, at time without an escort relying upon Faith in God, and confidence he had in the animal he always rode to carry him to his appointments in safety.

An Elder in Hopewell for 50 years

In this Narative or Sketch of Elder John H. Baxter Born in North Carolina 1804 One whose Portrait with others, Should adorn these Sacred walls with a delimation of their lives, as Memorials to Hopewell, He left the parental roof a beardless boy coming with friends to Tennessee, about the year 1815 preceeding his parents. Some months David and Sarah Baxter with one Sister who were in the original organization permit me Say this Sister Rebecca Baxter was a consistent Christian member in Hopewell for Seventy one years. In 1823 John H. Baxter united with Hopewell. In 1826 he married Betsy Black, to this union Seven children were Born, that lived to Maturity two of these were office bearers in Hopewell, as already mentioned. He, like most boys of his day, received a very limited Education but when he came to manhood, he was a man of almost unlimited powers of ability, an Earnest student of his Bible, the greatest text book that ever lay upon any ones desk quick Energetic, and witty Ever ready with an answer upon his tongue an amateur of Music who could sing like the nightingale, with a voice tuned to mellodious praise both sweet and Heavenly. Ever a pet of the children in their childish games, always one

with We boys and girls taking part in Especially blind mans bluff we listening to his retorts winning our confidence. Many were the times when the Minister had made every appeal at his command with no move or Even a tear. When John H. Baxter arose from his Seat clearing his throat, with a quivering voice repeating Some verse or Something that had been said, when it seemed that the very Sound of his voice appealed to every one in his presence with Sorrowing hearts, and weeping Eyes such was the character of the man that his words were received as coming from the heart to reach the heart.

A Clerk of Session 33 years

In these written Statements of facts addressed to Hopewell, may they ever stand as momentoes to the unfaltering love, and devotion, that Elder D. Hogwood Ever Exhibited in fulfilling two offices of trust to God and his church. He was born Oct. 19th, 1813; Departing this life Aug. 3rd, 1905. He was a man of heavy frame rather Short of Stature, his hair and complexion were dark, a Tanner by trade yet farming was a chief occupation, and a well ordered home was his delight. The stranger was welcomed at his door , if they showed manhood just the same as a friend the destitute forsaken and homeless, were treated treated with respect, and seldom, if ever, left without a rememberance regardless of color. If you were met by him upon the highway, it was with an open greeting and the same in parting. In his official church relations he was tender, brotherly, and dignified, both conscientious and courteous, a favorite with the young people. But his appeal to the wayward and erring in the ranks were dreaded and feared, though reveranced. He made his mistakes as all do, but in the wind up was proven of the head and not of the heart. One of his marked characteristics was the reconciliation of parties at variance anywhere and under all circumstances. Elder D. Hogwood served Hopewell longer than any of his predecessors, an Elder over fifty six years and clerk of the Session thirty three years faithfully Earnestly and devotedly and at his death

leaving a legacy, if it is judiciously handled with a memorial to his name as it goes on down through time, while nothing but the interest can be used and that for a Pastor's Salary.

One of Hopewells laity 47 years

Concluding with a Short Sketch of one of Hopewells members Bro. Geo. Peoples. He served as a soldier under Jackson at the Battle of New Orleans against the British in 1812. He was a man of brawny make, Strong and robust in his younger days, and was noted as a brawler of a refractory disposition, But when he wought mercy & pardon at the foot of the cross there was a changed man, as his afterlife has proven, uniting with Hopewell Aug. 14, 1832 and Departing this life Apr. 21st., 1879. To show more fully the character of the man, he at one time called upon the writer to grant him a favor which was accepted on the spur of the moment, But in a second said to him don't do it, it may bring ruin upon you and our friends. His head dropped upon his breast with downcast eyes, every muscle being Extended was relaxed in a minute he raised his head with a brighter countenance and a Smile upon his lips said if you say, I won't. He was always a liberal giver for church purposes. The records show that he gave at one time fifty dollars for benevolent causes. He was often called on for consultation and committee work, ever Eager and willing to help in any work or cause to advance the church in his blessed Mission. In his latter days he made a gift to Hopewell of several hundred dollars worth of property put in the hands of a board of Trustees. Elected by the church the proceeds of which ten dollars go to a Pastor's Salary, the remainder to benevolent causes and church Expenses. There could be much more said of each one of these characters, but feel that this is ample as we celebrate this day with appropriate ceremonies may we call to remembrance these lives with solemnity as we dedicate this memorial of written facts addressed to Hopewell.

Hopewell Church,
Milton, Tenn.

Minutes of Church Session of Hopewell
(April 1, 1816 - Sept. 25, 1821)

The congregation of Hopewell was organized April 1, 1816. Members in full communion at that time 45 and received stated supplies from Jesse Alexander Licentate until April 1, 1817. During which time there was added by examination 4, by certificate 6, Baptized adults 2, Infants 7, Deaths 3.

April 7, 1817 J. Alexander was ordained pastor of this congregation Baptized the following infants Alans Trigg, John Paterson, David Morison, William Bogle, Zachius Alexander.

August 11, 1817 The Church session of Hopewell met agreeable to appointment. Members present Ezekial Sharp, Zachius Alexander and William Rea.

Session preceded to make such regulations as would be to the spiritual advantage of the congregation. It was the order of session that the moderator in order to prepare the congregation for examination should deliver a connection sermon imbracing the doctrines contained in each chater of our confession of faith. And then precede to the examination of ghe congregation on these doctrines

Session adjourned to meet on the last Saturday in November next, concluded with prayer.

August 10 Baptized Abner Alexander.

Sept. 5 Baptized Samuel Maberry, Joseph Sharp.

Sept. 7 Admitted to communion by examination M. Thomas, Eliza McNight, Ellen Andrews, Rachel McNight. By certificat James Kilpatrick.

Nov. 19 Session of Hopewell met agreeably to adjournment

members present Ezekial Sharp, Zachies Alexander, and William Rea constituted with prayer. Session attended to the business that came before them relative to the spiritual and temporal advantage of the congregation. Session adjourned to meet on the first Saturday in April 1818, concluded with prayer.

Nov. 30, Baptized Andrew Morison, Removed from the congregation Jane F. Peoples in Full communion.

Feb. 2, 1818 Joseph Sharp, Ephram Farr and Abner Alexander were ordained elders in this congregation.

Session met agreeably to the appointment of the moderator. Members present Ezekial Sharp, William Rea, Zachel Alexander, Joseph Sharp and Ephriam Farr. Constituted with prayer.

Ezekial Alexander who was suspended from the Church of Stones River Falling into the bounds of this congregation made application to be restored to the priviliges of the church. The session being satisfyed with the acknowledgments and pennence of Mr. Alexander restored him to the communion of the church session, concluded with prayer.

April 6, 1818 Members of session met agreeably to the appointment and attended to the things that came before them. April 7, Baptized Jacob H. Thomas and Ephraim Farr.

July 1818 Members of Session met agreeably to appointment and attended to some of the temporal conserns of the congregation.

Aug. 22 Admitted to communion Polly Farr.

Sept. 13, Baptized Thomas Leach, Ezekial Sharp.

Died on the 1 day of November Alexander Witherspoon a member of this congregation.

Nov. 27 - Baptized Alanson Trigg, John Boid.

Feb. 1, 1819 Session met agreeably to appointment constituted with prayer. Inquiry was made whether there was anything to be laid before the session.

Session was informed that _____ said that (_____) had been guilty of unchristen conduct. Ephram Farr and William Rea were appointed by session to converse with Mr. (_____) on the subject.

Session adjourned to meet on Saturday the 13th.

Session met agreeably to adjournment constituted with prayer. William Wilson applied for church priviliges_____. Concluded with prayer.

April 5, 1819 - Oswin Alexander and his wife Ann were received into full communion by certificate. Samuel Mitchell and his wife Mary were also received by certificate.

June 16 Baptized (Thado Rose?)

Aug. 5 Baptized Alexander Witherspoon

Admitted to communion James (McIannel?) Ezekiel Alexander.

Jan. 9, 1819 Baptized Oswin Alexander

Feb. 13,1820 Baptized Jospeh Sharp, Horatio, G. Alexander, Reported to Presbytry.

For this time member in communion 66

June 4 Baptized John Boid

June 18 Bapt. James Mcnen (crossed out)

Sept. 1, 1820 The Sacrement of the Lord supper was administered. There were added by certificate James S. Witherspoon. By examination James Wilson, Ezekiel Sharp, Zachius McCorkal, Armelia McCorkal, William Garmanay and Eliza Alexander.

Oct. 22 Baptized Zachus Alexander, Ezekial Sharp.

March 1821 Baprized David Morison, Baptized Ephramin Farr.

April 21 Baptized Abner Alexander

Admitted to communion Neon Dorn on the 2 of May 1821 departed this life Mrs. Catherine Sharp.

June 25 Baptized Jacob H. Thomas

July 24, 1821 Admitted to communion Ellen Wilson, (Lues?) F. Wilson, McKnight Alexander, John and Polly Rains, Baptized (Rev?) Jessee Alexander.

August 13,1821 Baptized Thomas Powel

Sept. 25, 1821 At this time a report was made, members in communion 81.

# HOPEWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH RECORDS 1832-1883

## RUTHERFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE

by LAURA LOU WHITE COFFEY

Visiting a dear friend one cold winter day was a most fortunate occasion. Although very ill, my friend was cognizant of my interest in history, reading my column in the Democrat-Union each week called "From the Old Courthouse Attic" which contained all the accumulation of ancient papers since the old courthouse was built.

This unnamed friend asked if I would like to see some old church books that had been handed down in his family for several generations. Of course I was interested, and upon examination I found what you are about to read. Taking the books home, I became more and more excited and I just had to get the information down on paper somehow. Asking permission in the name of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution to copy the book for the Genealogical Research Department of the National Library, I was granted permission if I promised to not divulge the source of my findings, to both protect the family and to keep them from being constantly bothered with inquiries, not because of disinterest, but because of his illness. I agreed, I started copying, and within a month he was dead. The family wanted me to complete the work I started and I did, still keeping my promise. The material was sent into Washington and credit was given Buffalo River Chapter DAR for the year 1975-1976 as un-published material.

I thank God for letting me be at the right place at the right time so that these beautiful records were made available to all who are interested. It is my desire that you the reader receive the same blessing from reading these pages that I have received in writing them.

"THE RECORDS OF HOPEWELL CHURCH VOLUME II
COMMENCING APRIL 1st, 1832"

"There are at this time 45 members in communion of the Church. July 7th, 1832 Session met at the request of the Moderator. Members present: Rev. Jessee Alexander, Abner Alexander, William W. Knight, and John Baxter constituted with prayer."

"The Moderator laid before session a letter which he had received from Joseph Sharp, a member of Session, in which he stated his determination to withdraw from the Church and to have his name erased from our list.--On motion, resolved that in as much as J. Sharp's character has been attainted, by publick____ though no legal pie__has been brought against him, and as the session has evidence that he would not attend to any citation--and as in their judgement the interest of the Church would be as well supported in his withdrawal, as in his suspension,Therefore resolved that his name be stricken from our list and he be no longer considered a member of the Presbyterian Church--Session adjourned with prayer.--August 9, 1832:- A campmeeting was held at Center Campground within the boundries of this Church--Commenced on the 9th of August 1832. The whole process of the meeting was marked for good order and attention. Deep solemnity marked the face of the assembly, while attending in the ministration of the Word the order of public worship were generaly spent, by the profession in prayer for their anxious friends in the groves. About 25 made profession of religion at the meeting."

Milton, Tenn. Rutherford County

"August 14th Baptized William W. Knight (This may be McKnight as writing is not plain, but I have reason to believe it is McKnight) daughter, Sarah E. Born July 16th, 1832."

"August 24th 1832. Admitted to communion, George Peebles and Folemna Smith and administered to her the ordinance of Baptism. Died on the 21st of August Esther Farr."

"November 10th: Baptized Jesse Alexander's son George A. Born 16th August 1832."

"November 10th Admitted to communion Jane Knox, and administered to her the Ordinance of Baptism--Nov. 10th, Dismissed David Morison, a member of Session with his wife Thezia and their two daughters Caroline and Ann. Reported to Presbytery 1st April 1833."

(Note. All the minutes of these two books will be printed verbatum, so quotation marks will from this point on be omitted)

A Campmeeting was held at the Centre Campground commencing 26th September 1833. To this meeting, the Church had been looking forward with prayerful anxiety, and God appeared to be gracious by entreated for this meeting exceeded all previous meetings at this place; in the display of Almighty power in the conviction and converstion of sinners. About 50 made profession of religion.

2nd October 1832 Session received into Church membership on examination Ambrose Runnels with his wife Mary. Both received the ordination of Baptism. Also received Rebecaka M. Alexander, Martha C. Peebles, Mary A. Alexander, Robert T. Barton, James S.

Alexander and Polly Black. This last received the ordinance of Baptism.

6th October. Session received into membership on examination: Anon Armstrong, Samuel B. Harwell, Williamson Castrey, James Pinketon, Mary Dills. These all received the ordinance of Baptism. Received also the following who had been Baptized in infancy. Mary Thomas and Joseph A. Knox.

9th November 1833. Session received into Membership on examination, Parthenia Donoho, Benjamin Norgan and Rachel Morgan, the two latter received the ordinance of Baptism. Also Caroline, a black person who received baptism. 2nd March 1834. Session met for the purpose of choosing a delegate to Presbytery. Members Present: Rev. Jesse Alexander, William McKnight and John Baxter. A. Alexander received the appointment. Wm. McKnight C. S. Report: Total in communion 43. Members added 20. Members examined and approved except in the case of Mr. Sharp, Signed George Newton Moderator of Shiloh Presby_

3rd April 1834. Baptized four children of Ambrose and Mary Reynolds, ages and names as follows.

John A. Born 7th October 1829
Hannah M. " 7th February 1831
William R. " 9th October 1832
Mary Jane " 2nd January 1834

At Centre Camp collected for missionary purposes $5.56-$\frac{1}{4}$ and put the same into the hand of Lorenze D. Butts, Agent for the Western Forreign Missionary Society.

At Hopewell Meeting house 15th July contributed to missions through Rev. A. Morison $3.50, Collected for the Presbytery's Missionary Society $7.75. November Dismissed Robert Morison and his wife Edith.

11th Sept. 1834 Camp meeting met at Centre Camp and continued several days. We think, it may be truly said that this was an interesting meeting--the preachers were zealous, diligent and persevering in their labors of love. Professions were industrious in their appropriate duties and appeared to be much received--Sinners were cut to the heart and made to inquire in good earnest. "Men and Brethern, what shall we do?!!"--The two last days of the meeting did appear to be blessed with the felt presence of the Good Spirit--To God's Name Give the Glory! More than fifty persons professed to have found peace in believing. During the meeting the following persons were received into the church by examination.-

David M. McKnight, Wilson Alexander, James McKnight, Enos McKnight, Moses W. McKnight, Jonathan McNeman. The following were received by examination and received Baptism.
Alenis A. Black, Hannah Reynolds, Nancy B. Reynolds, Alexander Doran, Ann Powell,
18th Sept. Baptized Orvel Alexander's son Jesse Eagleton, Born 24th July 1834.

Session met and appointed John Baxter delegate to Presbytery.

March 1835 Dismissed Alexander Doran and his wife Nancy.

July 30th, 1835: Died: Miss Polemna Smith (Polemna)

Sept. 10, 1835: Met in Campmeeting at Centre Campground--The meeting continued until 16th September.- This was a time of sickness and of some perplexities in the neighborhood, yet the meeting was tolerably attended. We had solemn, searching preaching and pungent exhortations. Many prayers were offered for the

influence of the Holy Spirit to bear home the word to the hearts of the hearers. God was gracious!--His Spirit was poured out!--Many were convicted--And as many as 30 were hopefully converted.

16th Sep. 1835. Session met, constituted with prayer--The following members were received on examination. Elam McKnight, Theresa McKnight, Mary and Marinda Cook--the three females just named were given the ordinance of Baptism. Note: Other meetings of session and other_____to the church during Campmeeting are recorded in the session book of Stones River Church.

16th Sep. Honourable dismissed Cynthia Thomas.

1st Nov. 1835- Session met at Hopewell, constituted by prayer, and received by examination Ann Morgan and Rachel, a black woman--These both received the ordinance of Baptism--Said Rachel's infant Tilpa received baptism the same day. (Report at end of year April 1836 shows total now in Communion 78 and Wm. McKnight was C. S.) (Examined and approved by Amezi Bradshaw Moderator of Presbytery.)

29th May 1836:- Hopewell Session met, constituted with prayer, and received into church membership by certificate from the regular Baptist Church Nancy Hooper. Concluded with prayer.

May 30th. A collection of $12.43 and 3/4¢ was taken up for the Bible Society and put in the hands of Wm. McKnight until called for by the present society. Baptised Gideon B. Alexander, son of Jesse and Eliza Alexander, Born 28th April 1836.

1st Sept. 1836 Campmeeting commenced at Centre Campground and continued until the 7th. Preachers in attendance were: Rev. J. Alexander, Wm. Eagleton, B. Pryland, J. Allison, D. D. Thom and J. Porter. The preachers were industrious. Their heads and

hearts appeared to be faithfully engaged in their several labors. Professors in general appeared solemn and prayerful and "kindly affectionate one towards another in brotherly love." Non professors were in a good degree sober and attentive. -The spirit of prayer and supplication was given to the church; and in answer to many prayers the same spirit of the Lord did work mightily amongst those, who had been careless and secure. -Many were convinced of their sin and were constrained to cry mightily for mercy. As many as 30 professed conversion to God.

3rd Sept. Session met, constituted with prayer. Edward S. Weatherford was received into church membership on a certificate from the regular Baptist Church. Also Elisha Saunders was received on certificate. Also Nancy Thays and Porthenia Donoho were received on examination. The last of these received baptism. Concluded with prayer.

5th Sept. Session met, constituted with prayer and the following members were received on examination. Andrew Barkley, Eleanor J. McDaniel, Jane R. Barkley, Precilla W. Barkley, George Cook. The three last received the ordinance of baptism, Concluded with prayer.

Collected for the Missionary Society of Shilo. $6.00, for the Commissioners fund $9.00.

Sept. 11, Session met, constituted with prayer. Martha F. McWhirter was received to membership on examination. Concluded with prayer.

15th Nov. 1836. Baptised Alexander D. McKnight, born 30th Sept. 1830.
Eagleton A. McKnight, born 28th Feb. 1832

Mary E. McKnight, born 17th
July 1836.

these being the children of James and Nancy McKnight.

1st Jan. 1837. Collected at Hopewell for F. Missions. $13.00. Signed Wm. McKnight, C. S.

(Report shows increase of 10 since last report, membership 88. Also total of $12.43 and 3/4¢ in Bible Society fund.) (April 7th, 1837) (Examined and approved report thus far, signed John Allison, Moderator of Presbytery.

28th April, 1837. Put into the hand of Rev. Anozi Bradshaw, Agent for B. C.

30th April 1837. Baptized Mary Palemna, daughter of John and Elizabeth Baxter born 26th of November 1836.

3 July. Baptized Alezira Angeline, daughter of Oswin and Ann Alexander, born 18th of May 1837.

2nd August, Rev. A. Bradshaw, Agent of the Bible Society preached at Centre Camp and a collection taken up and handed to him $5.84.

A protracted meeting commenced on the 1st and closed on the 5th Sept. at Centre Camp Ground. At this meeting the friends of the Redeemer met with some trials and difficulties which were calculated to try their faith and increase their humility. Yet the Lord (in great mercy) did give us a refreshing season, did make some of the stout hearted to bow and cry for mercy and did bind up the broken in heart. Several persons were enabled to rejoice in the hope of pardoned sin and peace with God. Through the Redeemer, the number of hopeful converts at this meeting is not exactly known, but it is believed to be about twenty.

2nd Sept. Revd. Thomas Hall preached at Centre Campground in behalf of the exucation Society and took a collection of $10.87¼.

3rd Sept. Baptized James Grier, son of Robert and Isabella Cummins, born October 1837.

4th Sept. Session met, was opened by Prayer and the following persons were received into the church on examination: Elvizy Sarah Moore, Hannah Barkley, Ann Eliza Berkley and Sarah Roberts, the last two were baptized.

6th Sept. John H. Baxter duly appointed as delegate to Senate (Synod),

10th Sept. Dismissed Robert and Isabella Cummins.

27th Oct. Session constituted by prayer and received an examination: Alexander Morrison and G. Morrison.

11th Feb. Rev. J. Alexander preached at Centre Campground in behalf of Foreign missions took a collection for F. M. $7.62½.

11th Feb. Dismissed Thomas and Isabella and Sarah Powel.

22nd Feb. Collected for the Bible Society $6.25.

31st March. Wm. McKnight appointed delegate to Presbytery. (Report of the Church of Hopewell from the April 1837 to March 1838 shows total membership at 89.) (Received and approved by M. Marshall, Moderator)

8th of April 1838. Session met constituted with prayer, and received the following members on certificate. Wm. White, Sarah White, Jane White Malinda White.

Met at Centre Campground, 30th August and continued in camp-meeting until 5th Sept. This meeting was, in its general features

similar to other campmeetings which have been held at this place, which are recorded in this book.- The work of life was exhibited frequently and plainly and was listened to by a large concourse of people. Many prayers were presented to God that he would bless the ministration of his word, and the ordinances of his house to the salvation of souls; and the Lord of Saboath left not himself with witnesses. Many Christians were fed and refreshed;-Many of those who had been hitherto impenitent were made to inquire what they should do to be saved.-As many as sixteen were enabled (in the judgement of charity) to give up their hearts to the Lord, and to rejoice in the hope of peace and pardon, through the blood of the Lord.

2nd Sept. received into the Church on examination, Mary Morison.

9th Sept. Abner Alexander was appointed Delegate to Presbytery. Wm. Mcknight Delegate to Synot.-

18th November, Rev. Mr. Jones, Agent for the American Board for Foreign Missions preached at Centre Nursery and took up a collection of $19.55 for the A. B. F. M.

20th Dec. Dismissed Jane White and Malinda White.

5th January 1839. Dismissed James Pinchkson.

4th Feb. 1839. Died. Mrs. Mary Doran.

1st March, Dismissed Rebecca L. Doran.

1st March, Dismissed Raine, woman of colour.

31st March, Baptized Martha Ann, daughter of Jesse and Eliza Alexander born 17th August 1838.

9th April. Died. Mary Cosbey, (formerly Mary Cook)

15th Received by Certificate. Mrs. Mary R. Alexander.

Baptized Samuel Edgar, son of James and Nancy McKnight. Born 21st June 1838.

Baptized William B. Son of John and Mary Alexander, born 7 Nov. 1838. Signed. Wm. McKnight. C. S. (Report shows 89 members April 1838-39.) (Examined and approved thus far at Fayetteville, April 19, 1839, and signed by G. Newton, Moderator of Shiloh Presbytery)

May 1st, 1840. Sacramental meeting commenced at Hopewell Church. Ministers present. Msgs. Alexander, Eagleton and Potter, a Missionary Agent, all of which preached the word of Life faithfully. A collection was taken up on Sabboth to defray the expenses of the occasion and if any over to be paid to Mr. Potter.

Monday 4th May 1840. Paid to the Rev. Mr. Potter $11.25. To the Rev. Mr. Eagleton $4.00 for Pastoral letter.

May 13, 1840. Died. Mr. William McKnight, ruling Elder of Hopewell Church and also Clerk of Session.

Monday 14th day of Sept. 1840. died. Mrs. Eliza Knox, (formerly Eliza D. Dill).

Thursday 17th Sept. Met in Campmeeting at Centre Campground and continued until the following Wednesday.- Our Pastor's assistants were Mssrs. Eagleton and Bradshaw.--Although a time of serious and general sickness, the meeting was well attended--The preaching was solemn and pointed. Prayers were frequent and very earnestly offered for the descent of the Holy Spirit. God graciously heard, the earnest supplication of his people and many were brought to inquire after salvation and in the judgement of Charity we trust somewhere over thirty hopefully converted to God.

Tuesday 22nd. Session appointed Charles Ready delegate to Synod and delegate to Presbytery.

April 12th 1841. Williamson Cosbey, chosen Clerk of Session in place of Dr. William McKnight deceased. Williamson Cosbey, C. S. (Report to Presbytery shows 90 now in communion and report was examined and approved thus far, April 11th, 1841 by Amzi Bradshaw. Moderator of Presby.)

June 1, 1841. Commenced a Sacramental meeting at the Centre Campground on Sabbath of Said Meeting received into Hopewell Church the following members viz: Martha E. Baxter, Catharine Stroop, William R. Alexander, Elizabeth A. Morgan, and Henry M. Morgan. The last two received the ordinance of baptism.

June 6th 1841.- Baptized Sarah R. Baxter, born Aug. 15th 1840 daughter of John N. and E. R. Baxter.

Sept. 23, 1841. Meet in Campmeeting at Centre Campground and continued until Thursday 30th. Our Pastors assistants were Messrs. Eagleton, Bradshaw, Ryland and Sloan. The church experienced great difficulty, from the inclemency of the weather during the forepart of the meeting. But the ministers ceased not to warn sinners Solemnly and affectionately. The church appeared to be upon her knees. Prayers were frequent and solemn and in answer thereto the Spirit of the Lord descended and many were made to cry out "Men and Brethern, what shall we do-" They were directed to the Lamb of God that taketh away the Sins of the world.-and we hope that the number of twenty-five were brought sincerely to bow at the feet of Jesus.

On Saturday 28th. Received into membership of Hopewell Church. James S. McKnight, Nancy E. Alexander, Sarah E. McKnight.

On Sabbath 3rd of Oct. Received Samuel S. Alexander. Samuel A. McKnight and Edward Donoho which last named received baptism.

Feb. 6th 1842. Baptized Nancy C. Alexander daughter of Jesse and Eliza Alexander, born Sept. 25th 1841.
Received Sept. 28th William T. McKnight which should have been noticed on the foregoing page.

Oct. 1840. Dismissed Mary A. Alexander, formerly Mary A. Black. Signed Williamson Cosbry. C. S. (Report shows total membership 101. Examined and approved thus far. Bedford Ryland Moderator of Shiloh Presbytery)

May 25th 1842. Departed this life. Jane Knox.

July 25th. A campmeeting commenced at Centre Campground. Attended by the united Churches of Stoneriver, Hopewell and Chapplecreek. It continued 7 days and was interesting minister. People appeared to partake of the Divine influence about 40 supposed to have imbraced the Savior. During the meeting 12 were added to the three churches. The following were received into Hopewell Church. Mary Cuningham, Mary S. Saunders, Morton Armstrong, and the two last mentioned received the ordinance of baptism.

Another Campmeeting was held at the same place by the same churches. Commenced on the 22nd of Sept. which was more interesting than the former, the presence of the Lord was felt to be in the Camp. Christians were reproached, sinners convicted and many we hope were converted. 75 professed a hope that they had passed from death to life, 32 were added to the three churches. The following were received into Hopewell Church. Sarah H. Neely, James N. Greer, William Greer, Quincy M. Greer, Sarah M. Armstrong, Ambrose McKee, Abner Knox, Eliza A. Jourdan, Mary A. Jourdan, Jeremiah P. Jourdon, John F. Morgan, Eliza B. Neely,

Elener T. Kook, Stephen Kook, David N. Baxter, Nothunial W. Dunnel, (this last name is not plain) Samuel P. McKnight, Mary L. Alexander, Thomas E. Shune. The fourteen first named on the list received the ordinance of baptism. October 25th. Williamson Cosbey was dismissed as a member in good standing. David M. McKnight was appointed session clerk in his place.

Eliza McKnight, Nancy S. Spune and John Q. Spune were received on certificate Dec. 2nd 1842. June Mc Knight died. (I do not know if this last item goes with the Dec. 2nd 1842 notation or not, but I suppose it does. Writing is so poor that it is very hard to decipher.)

December 23. A protracted meeting commenced in Hopewell Church and continued four days. The meeting was well attended. The people of God appeared to be refreshed and sinners seemed to feel the force of Divine Truth. Feb. 29. Ebner McKnight Died.

(Report shows 125 members, signed David M. McKnight S. C. McMinnville May 14th 1843. Examined and approved thus far, William Eagleton, Moderator Shiloh.)

May 9th 1843. Baptised James P. (or R.) son of D. M. and Eliza A. McKnight. Born Sept. 1st, 1842. May 27th paid M. Potter agent foren mission $7.25. May 25th Session met. Constituted with prayer. Mary A. Knox was received to membership. Augst. 4th. A. Communion season (Commission session) was held at Hopewell which continued for four days. This meeting was well attended ministerial aid William Eagleton preaching was feverent and edefying.

A campmeeting was held at McKnight Academy commencing on the last day of August ministerial aid was the two Messrs Deshileds

William Eagleton and D. S. Sloan. Preaching on the occasion was plain pointed and convineing. Solumn attention was given by the large assemblyes that attended through the whole occasion. Not much excitement appeared until Thursday evening about 15 professed anxiety about their souls interest 10 or 12 professed a hope in Christ.

Sept. 4th. Session met, constituted with prayer. Isobella C. Donnel was admitted to communion in the Church.

Sept. 5th. Baptized John H., Son of John H. and Elizabeth Baxter born May 14th 1843.

October 4th. Dismissed by letter N. W. Danil, I. R. Jerdon, Mary A. Jerdon and Eliza A. Jerdon.

December 23rd. A sacremental meeting commenced at Hopewell Church which continued 4 days. This meeting was pretty well atended and though our pastor stood solitary and alone, preaching was edifying and we have evidence to believe the Lord by his Holy Spirit was with us.

April 1, 1844. William McFadden was received to membership by letter from Murfreesboro Church. Also his wife Clementine by letter from the Methodist Church of Murfreesboro. James McFadden was also received by letter from the Presbyterian Church in Murfreesboro.

May 1, 1844. Collected for foreign missions $9.75 cts and paid it over to William Potter.

August 4, 1844. Session met constituted with prayer. John P. Greer was received on examination and received the ordance of Baptism.

September 12. A campmeeting was held at Centre Camp. The

meeting continued 5 days. Not as interesting as former meetings although we hope good was done. 5 expressed a hope in the Savior. Christians were humbled and felt their dependence on Divine Grace.

September 15. Session met constituted with prayer. Hunthew A. Baxter was received on examination. (this could be Mathew but is plain a H.) Baptized (named omitted) _____ son of John Q and Sarah Spune.

Sept. 16. William McFadden and his wife Clementine were dismissed as members in good standing.

October 1, 1844. The Church reported to Presbytery from Oct. 1, 1843 to the present as follows. Members last report 125. added on examination 2 on certificate 3. dismissed 6, suspended 0. Total now in communion 124, collected for foreign missions $4.75. March 27, 1845. Rachel, a black person died.

May 2, 1845. Session met constituted with prayer. On examination the records of the church it was found that some members had removed without applying for certificate, others had left and joined another church. It being important that the records give a correct history of the church it is hereby on motion resolved unanimously that those names be striken from the list, which are as follows:--Simon, a black person who died and his death was not recorded in the proper place. Left without certificate:-McKnit Alexander, Eliza Farr, John West, Hariet McKnight, Robert Barton, Mary Thomas, June Kirkpatrick, Elam McKnight, Wilburn Alexander, Junethen McNamer (or Jonethen M. Homer,) George Cook, Alexander Morison, James Alexander, Samuel B. Merel, Elizer A. Black, Martha McWherter, Sarah Roberts. Examined and approved thus far. Stones River Church May 3rd, 1845. Signed A. H. DaShull, Moderator.

August 3, 1845. Baptised the children of Morton W. and Mary M. Armstrong: William Alonzo Doren, born August 3, 1835
Nancy Prunette, born May 12, 1837
John Baxter, born July 22, 1838
Martha Tennessee, born February 23, 1840
Martin W., born Dec. 16, 1841
Mary Minerva Matilda, born May 18, 1844
Also, Mary M. daughter of William B. and T. White and Eliza Jane, daughter of Tisse and Eliza Alexander.

September 15. Session met constituted with prayer. Received to membership, John Turk also his wife Muriel Turk on examination and Mary Barkley on Certificate. Reported to Presbytery from Oct. 1, 1844 to Oct. 1, 1845 as follows: Membership on last report 124. Added on examination 2, on certificate 1, dismissed 17, died 2, total 108. Collected for home missions, $3.00.

April 1, 1846. Collected for commissioners fund, $4.00.

August 4, dismissed Rachel Green, (Greer) also Q. M. Greer (Green) Wilburn P. Greer and John Greer. (Writer believes these are all Greer's,)

July 26, 1846. Departed this life Sarah Brasher.

January 15, 1847. Dismissed Benjamin Morgan and his wife Rachel also of his family, John F., Ann J., Henry V., James Morgan. Also James McFadden and his wife Elezabeth. January 31, departed this life Sarah Trailer, fornerly Nealy. Sarah A. White died on the 13th of March 1847.

Report to Presbytery April 13, 1847 membership in communion 92. H. A. Baxter C. S.
(Spring Creek Church April 16, 1847. Examined and approved thus far. Amzi Bradshaw Moderator of Shiloh Presbytery.)

October 21, 1847. Collected for domestic missions $8.00.

November 12, Baptized Susan E. and Martha R. daughters of Stephen and Sarah Cook. Departed this life June the 11, 1848 Betsey McKnight. Departed this life July 2, Hannah Thomas.

September 14, 1848. Departed this life ____Watt (name omitted) Sept. 17, collected for foreign missions $12.75. Examined and approved thus far Sept. 22, 1848 A. H. Dashiell, Moderator.

1849. Dismissed Malvina Watson and Ann Witherspoon. April 1, 1849. Donnison Haywood and William R. Alexander were elected ordained Elders.

April 21, 1849. Collected for commissioners fund $2.50.

June 3, 1849. Received by certificate Alesmond B. Witherspoon and his wife June from the Church of Cripplecreek.

August 3. A campmeeting commenced at Centre Campground which continued 11 days at which 12 were added, viz: Henry Barkley, Mary McKnight, Elizabeth Cook, A. D. Pebbles, R. F. Baxter, S. A. Barkley, J. E. R. Alexander, and A. A. Alexander. The following received the ordinances of Baptism. John M. Mabry, Palemnes M. McKnight, William T. Hooper, and Julia Stroop.

Dec. 3. Received on examination Nelsom, a blank man belonging to John S. Woodridge.

August 25, 1849. Dismissed John Q. Spain and Sarah.

October 9. Departed this life, William R. Alexander, Elder.

December: Dismissed Dr. M. Armstrong and wife Minerver. Children Baptized. D. Haywood and wife P. W., Martha J., Hannah R., William R., Henry B., James P., and Ann E.
Children of J. M. Knox and wife Mary. John H., Joseph B. and James S.

Children of John Mabry and Wife Murinda. Margarey E., Mary A., Charles C., and Sarah E.

Reported to Presbytery April 1, 1850 as follows. Membership 101. Examined and approved thus far this date April 13, 1850 Dashiell, Moderator.

April 14, 1850. Session met at Hopewell Church and appointed D. Haywood Session Clerk. A. B. and Jane Witherspoon daughter baptised. Mary Margaret

April 14th, 1850: Session met at Hopewell Church. Constituted with prayer and on examination received Linda, a black woman of Rev. J. Alexander. Concluded with prayer.

May 5th. Session met at Hopewell Church. Constituted with prayer and received on examination Lewis B. Creson, concluded with prayer. Collected for foreign missions $17.00 also for education $18.00.

September 12th, 1850. Campmeeting commenced at Centre Campground and continued till the 19th. The meeting was marked for good order and attention, deep solemnity marked the face of the Assembly while attending on the ministration of the word. There were 13 whites and 10 blacks who we hope found the Lord gracious to their souls. Ministers in attendance with our pastor were Wm. Eagleston. On the 16th of Sept. Hopewell Church taken up a collection for Home missions and received &7.50.

Sept. 22, 1850. Session met at Campground and received on examination Manny A. Cook and also Martha Jane Hagwood. Concluded with prayer.

Sept. 24. Children baptized of Lewis and Jane Creson to viz: Mary Ann, Prissilla Rebecca, Dennison Haywood (this may be Hagwood,

but cannot tell for sure), James Thomas and John Bell. Concluded with prayer.

Oct. 6, Session met and appointed John H. Baxter a delegate to Synod. 1851, March 10. Tanissa McKnight departed this life. Consort of Elurn McKnight.

26th Session met at Rev. J. Alexander and appointed D. Hagwood a member to Presbytery.

April 6, Hopewell Church taken up a collection for commissioner to the General Assembly and received $6.00. Collection for tract society $30.00. Total reported membership was 105. (cannot read signature of moderator but looks like M. Marshall.) April 26, 1851.

May 27th 1851. Baptized Nancy Neomia Hannah Cook, Daughter of Stephen and Sarah Cook. Also Sarah Elizabeth Knox, daughter of Samuel W. and Mary A. Knox, also Andrew Barklay Creson, son of Lewis B. and Jane R. Creson and Dennison Doren Hogwood, son of Dennison and Prescilla W. Hogwood.

July 26th Collected at Hopewell Church for Home Missions $18.00 for Education $24.00.

Aug. 7 Campmeeting commenced at Centre campground: Ministers present Rev. E. T. Brantly, Jessee Alexander and Matt Marshall. The gospel was preached in demonstration of the Spirit and with power many were convinced of sin and forty-two professed faith in Jesus Christ and conversion to God. The meeting was kept up with great interest until the 19th when it was dismissed during the ocasin the churches have been greatly blessed and made to sit together in heavenly peace in Christ. During the meeting twenty-six were added to the churches of Cripple Creek, Stone River and

Hopewell. The following persons added to Hopewell Church, on the 18th of August 1851 on examination--Robert D. Donoho, John H. White, Armstrong E. McKnight, Sarah R. Baxter, Charlott Cook--Manthue A. Alexander, George A. Alexander, Gideon B. Alexander, Hannah K. Hogwood, James F. Black, Sarah McKnight, Mary M. McKnight, Mary E. Barkley, Lucy A.F. Black, Nart N. Oebsekk, The last six received the ordinance of baptism..

Nov. 2, 1851. Baptised Dariah Jane, daughter of William B. and M.C. White also Moses Jessee Alexander and Sariah Eliza, Rebeck a Elvina and William Rea Children of Thomas B. and Mary A. Cranen.(this surname os not at all clear). Dec. 28th 1851 dismissed J.E.R. Alexander.

1852 Feb. 2, Collection taken up on Hopewell Church for Education. Received $12.25. Feb. 2nd, 1852, dismissed William Garmany. April 4th D. Hogwood appointed a delegate to Presbytary. Reported 118 communicants. Examined and approved by Eliza Alexander, Moderator April 10, 1852. Total collected for year for education and missions $54.25. Report examined and approved by Jesse Alexander, M.D.

Jane Barkley, Consort of Henry Barkley departed this life September First day 1852.

Sep 23 Campmeeting commenced at Centre Campground minestary present E. T. Brantly, Jessee Alexander, William Eagleton and A. H. Desheell. The gospel was preached in demonstration of the Spirit and with power. Many were convinced of sin and thirty professed faith in Jesus Christ and conversion to God seven of whom were plack. The meeting was kept up with interest until the first day of October. It was dismissed during the ocasin. The church

have been greatly refreshed and made to sit together in Heavenly places in Christ Jesus. During the meeting twelve were added to Church of Hopewell, Stone River and Cripple Creek and Murfreesboro. The following persons added to Hopewell Church on the 24th and 29th Sept. on examination. M. E. Mabry, Mary P. Baxter and Wm. M. Bradley, M.J.R. Bradley, John T. Barkley the last 2 received the ordinance of Baptism and W. Alexander received on certificate. Baptised Dennison Hagwood son of William M. Bradley and M.J.R. Bradley, also S.A.W. Bradley daughter of W. M. and M.J.R. Bradley.

Oct. 3 D. Hogwood appointed delegate to Presbytery and also to Synod October Session.

Nov. 15th, 1852 Dismissed Sarah M. McKnight and Mary M. McKnight.

Dec. 4th, 1852 Session met and received on examination Thomas C. Barkley also Nancy J. Barkley on certificate.
Dec. 25, 1852. Session met and received on Certificate L. J. Barkley.

Feb. 27th, 1852. Collected for education $11.00. Brother J. H. Baxter appointed to be delegate to Presbytary at Shelbyville. Total now in Communion 123. Total now in Funds $52.00. Examined and Approved.

1852. July 14th. Collection for Tract Society $30.00

July 24th Collected for Mission (F) $13.00. A. D. Peoples departed this life on the 1st day of Sept. 1853.

September 14th 1853. Dismissed T. C. Barkley and N. J. Barkley .

Sept. 22, 1853. Campmeeting commenced at Centre Campground. Ministers present, Wm. Eagleton, Jessee Alexander, A. H. Dashiele, A. Bradshaw, E. T. Brantley, and J. C. Sloan. The Gospel was preached in demonstration of the Spirit and with power many were convinced of sin and forty-five professed faith in Jesus Christ and conversion to God, nineteen of whome were black persons. The meetings were kept up with interest until the 30 day of Sept. It was dismissed during the ocasion. The Churches of Hopewell, Stoneriver and Cripple Creek have been greatley refreshed and made to sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. During the meeting thirty were added to the churches of Hopewell Stoneriver and Cripple Creek and Murfreesboro. The session met, constituted with prayer and received on examination in to the Church of Hopewell the following persons. David C. Witherspoon, Jacob C. Henndon, Mary F. Knox, Elmenah Hoskins, Samuel T. L. Witherspoon, Mary S. Hooper, Mary E. Witherspoon, Mary A. Mabry, Virginia Cook, John C. Sloan, Hugh L. White, Nancy C. Alexander, Elizabeth White. The first seven recorded received the ordinance of Baptism. Also received on certificate Virginia Donoho, Matilda Elden, James G. Elden and Elizabeth M. Elden (note. these last three are possibly Elder). Concluded with prayer. D. Hagwood, S. C.

Sept. 25th 1853. Baptised Wm. B. Henry, son of L. B. and June K. Creson, born 6th of March 1853. Also E. M. M. daughter of Stephen and S. Cook, born the 4th of Feb. 1853. Ann E. daughter of John T. and G. J. Brakley, born 17th of July 1853 and Mary J. daughter of D. and P.W. Hogwood. born 12 July 1853.

Sept. 28, 1853. Collected for home missionary and rual, $6.50. Brother John H. Baxter appointed delegate to Synot at Lewisburge. D. Hogwood.

Oct. 2nd 1853. Session met at the Campground constituted with prayer and received on certificate Jermima H. McLin also John D. McLin. On Examination who received the ordinance of baptism. Concluded with prayer.

Jan. 29th 1854. Collected for education $10.00.

March 25th 1854. Mary A. Knox, consort of Samuel W. Knox departed this life on the above date (Mar. 25th 1854)
Brother J. H. Baxter appointed delegate to Presbytary at Beth Salem Church April 1854. Total Communicants 135. Total in Funds $59.50.
Examined and approved Bethsalem Church April 8th 1854. William Eagleton Mod.

March 26th 1854. Collected for Church Erection $7.00.

April 23 1854. Collected for Commissioner Fund $10.00.

July 20th, 1854. Collected of Hopewell and Stoneriver Churches two hundred and thirty five dollars and 35 cts to pay for the Presbyterian Church at Nashville.

Sept. 2, 1854. Dismissed by letters: A.B. Witherspoon, Jane Witherspoon, D. C. Witherspoon, G. T. Witherspoon and M. E. Witherspoon.

D. Hagwood appointed to Presbytery at Cripple Creek, Sept. 2, 1854.

Sept. 21 Campmeeting commenced at Centre Campground and ministers present. William Eagleton, A. H. Dashiele, Jesse Alexander, E. T. Brantley, J. C. Sloan, The gospel was preached

in demonstration of the Spirit and with power. Many were convinced of sin and nineteen professed faith in Jesus Christ and conversion to God. Eight of whome were black persons. The meetings were kept up with interest until the 28th day of Sept. it was dismissed during the ocasion. The churches of Hopewell, Stoneriver and Cripple Creek churches added nine during the meeting.

Sept. 25. Session met constituted with prayer and on examination received James H. Watt and Sanaah E. Watt. Concluded with prayer.

Sept. 26. Session met, constituted with prayer and on examination received Mary Jane Knox and Silvy Knox. They received ordinance of baptism. Silvy Knox was consort of B. F. Knox. Concluded with prayer.

Baptised John D. Spain and Samuel E. Spain sons of John Q. Spain and S. M. Spain. Baptised Mary Jane Bradley, daughter of Wm. M. Bradley and Ana J. R. Bradley, also James Albert Baxter. son of H. A. and R. A. Baxter.

Collected for Home missions $9.60.

Paid Brother Jessee Alexander twenty dollars for his services.

Dec. 22, 1854. Dismissed by letter Caroline a free person.

April 5, 1855. Brother J. H. Baxter appointed delegate to Presbytery at Murfreesboro. Total communicants 134. Total in funds $281.95.

Examined and approved A. H. Dashiell, Mod.

June 5th 1855. Collected commissioners fund, $4.00. Sister Savaah E. Watt, consort of Brother Jas. H. Watt departed this life.

Brother L. E. McKnight departed this life June 6th 1855.

Sister Eliza McKnight, consort of Brother D. M. McKnight departed this life on 12th of June 1855.

Sept. 20, 1855. Campmeeting commenced at Centre Campground. Ministers present, Brother Jessee Alexander, Wm. Eagleton, A. H. Dashielal and E. T. Brantley, Meeting lasted until 27th day of Sept. Twenty-five professed faith in Jesus Christ and Conversion to God. Nine of whom were black persons. Sixteen were added to churches of Hopewell, Stoneriver Cripple Creek and Murfreesboro.

Sept. 26th Session met constituted with prayer and on examination received the following persons in the Church of Hopewell to wit: Priscella R. Crenson or Creson, John H. Baxter Jr. Dennison H. Creson, William R. Hogwood, Henry B. Hogwood, and B. F. Witherspoon by letter. Baptised John D. Boggers, son of Mary E. and R. H. Boggens or Boggers.

Sept. 30, 1855 Baptised Samuel Brantley son of E. T. and M. E. Brantley. Session met constituted with prayer and on examination received James E. McLin and administered the ordinance of baptism. Concluded with prayer.

Oct. 4 Baptised Jas. L. Creson son of L. B. and Jane K. Creson. Brother J. H. Baxter appointed delegate to Presbytary. Appointed D. Hogwood delegate to Synod at Shelbyville.

Oct. 30 dismissed A. M. and Mary Reynolds by letters.

Nov. 22, 1855 dismissed July A. Stroops by letter, also Sa. Catharine Ramsey.

Departed this life on the 20th of Nov. 1855 Sister Mary E. Rogers Consort of Brother R. H. Rogers.

1855, Dec. 21 Baptised Albert D. P. Craner, son of Thos.

B. and Mary A. Craner.

1856. Bef. 24 Collected for church erection and handed the same to Rev. Wm. Eagleton $8.00.

(next entry seems out of place because of date but is copied as written)

Dec. 24, 1856 Collected for the American Tract Society and handed to Brother Wells, $30.00.

Payed out for stoves, $35.00.

Payed to Rec. Jessee Alexander, $45.00.

March 5th. Dismissed by letter, Sister Neomia S. McKnight and Sister Martha P. Ranken formerly M. B. McKnight.

D. Hogwood appointed a delegate to Presbytery at Shelbyville.

March 29th 1856. Sission of Hopewell met at the call of the Moderator, constituted with prayer and examining the records of Hopewell church it was ascertained they were incorrect in the reported membership. Thereupon D. Hogwood and J. H. Baxter were appointed a committee to take up the records and examine them and see where they were incorrect. The committee find them incorrect in the following particulars. They find that the deaths of Nancy Hooper, E. S. Weatherford, E. Saunders, M. R. Alexander, S. E. Mc Knight and Reachel McKnight a woman of color were not recorded as they should have been. They also find on our records the names of J. A. Knox, Enas McKnight, Wm. G. Morison, Sam A. McKnight, Mary Cunningham, Mary S. Saunders, Mary Morison, Thoas E. Spain and Mrs. Spain, J. B. Lusk and Mrs. Lusk, Mary M. Percell, Robert Donoho, all of which have removed beyond our bounds and some parts to us unknown without calling for a letter or being dismissed so far as the records show. Session therefore in review-

ing the case though aware of it not strictly acording to our book believed the best way can do in the premises is to continue the names of those members no longer in our reports by order of session. Concluded with prayer.

Paid Brother E. T. Brantley fifty dollars for part of his services for 1855. Membership now stands at 112 and total in collection of funds $172.00 Examined and approved April 12, 1856. Amzi Bradshaw Moderator of Presbytery.

April 17th 1856. Dismissed by letter Brother J. C. Sloan.

Brother William Rhea departed this life the 27th day of May 1856. He was one hundred and four years three months of age. He professed faith in Jesus Christ at the age of eighteen he was a devoted brother to the cause of Christ.

1856. June 1 Baptised Stephen Alexa, son of Stephen and Sarah Cook.

Aug. 24. Baptised George Albert, a son of Wm. B. and Martha G. White, also a daughter named Martha Frances.

Sept. 24th 1856. Campmeeting commenced at Centre Campground. Ministers present Brothers: Jesse Alexander, Wm. Eagleton, A. Bradshaw, A. H. Dashield, Woodbury and E. T. Brantley who was sick.....Three sermons preached every day. Nine persons enquiring the way of salvation six of whom professed faith in Jesus Christ and five attached themselves to the church. Meeting closed Oct. 2. Home missions collections $3.75. Ministering bretheren were paid $60.00.

Sept. 30, 1856. Session met, constituted with prayer and received upon examination John T. Herington who received ordinance of baptism.

Oct. 1, 1856. Session met, and received N. K. Knox for Baptism. Report to Presbytery shows 112 on roll. Total in Funds $138.75. Approved April 1856.

Brother Jacob H. Thomas departed this life the 16th day of July 1857. August 1. Dismissed by letter Sister Ann Powell wife of Allen Powell.

1857 Sept. 24th. Campmeeting begun. Ministers present Brothers: Woodbury, Eagleton, Bradshaw, Monery and Hantpence. The total collected for the American Tract Society 1857 was $40.00 and paid to Wells. Thirteen professed fauth in Christ Jeses and conversion to God. Also seven black persons professed faith in Jeses Christ. The meeting closed the 30th of Sept. During the meeting one was added to Stoneriver Church and the Sabbath following three were added to the Murfreesboro Church also Children of the following bretheren were baptised: S. W. and N. E. Knox son Wm. E. and daughter Mary E. Knox.
Wm. M. and M. J. Bradley his son John Baxter.
L.B. and J. R. Creson, son Robert F.
W. W. and M. P. McKnight son Edwin A.

Nov. 14th 1857. Session received on examination Robert McGill, free man of color, also Peter, a colored man belonging to B. Knox. Dismissed Sister Virginia Donoho by letter March 29, 1857. D. Hogwood appointed delegate to presbytary at Hopewell. Report shows 111 communicants and $45.00 in funds. Approved. A. H. Hartpense, 1858. Collected for A. Missions $5.00.

April 10, Session on examination received Jan Orr.

April 12, 1858, Dismissed Sister Jan Orr by Letter.

April 25, Paid to brother A. Bradshaw for his services,

$14.05.

Jan. 5, 1859, Paid A. Bradshaw for his services for 1858, $135.00. Brother B. F. Witherspoon dismissed by letter Nov. 20, 1858.

Sister Sarah Ray departed this life on the 22nd day of November 1858. D. and P. W. Hogwood daughter Priscella Rebecca and Son John Thomas was baptised on the 28th day of November 1858. Session met and on examination received Wm. R. Hogwood and he received the ordinance of Baptism.

Sister Partheny Price dismissed by letter March 11, 1859.

Collected for Tract Society $1.00.

Dismissed by letter, Sister Harritt McLin, March 21, 1859.

Dismissed by letter Brother James McLin, March 21, 1859. Reported to Presbytery 107 communicants and $155.05 in Funds. Examined and approved by F. A. Thompson Moderator at Shelbyville April 9, 1859.

Dismissed by letter Elizabeth English, May 6, 1859.

"The Records of Hopewell Church Vol. 3 Commencing the 5th day, May, 1859"

Hopewell Church was called together by the order of Session on the 5th day of May 1859, for the purpose of choosing their Ecclesiastical connection, constituted by calling Rev. J. Alexander, the object of the meeting was explained by the Moderator, and a committee of three, to wit, J. H. Baxter, D. Hogwood, and Geo. Peoples was appointed to draft and present resolutions. Said committee presented the following preamble and resolutions, which were severally considered and adopted.

"Whereas the Presbyterian of Church of the United States of America divided in the year 1838 on the subject of the excinding acts of 1837, and formed two assemblies known by new and old school, and whereas a number of the Presbyteries belonging to the new school Assembly, being aggrieved with the continued agitation of the subject of Slavery, in their body, withdrew from said assembly in 1857 convened at Cleveland, Ohio, and formed a Synot at Knoxville, Tennessee in 1858, known by the name of The United Synod of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

And Whereas, Shiloh Presbytery to which we belonged was not one of the number that withdrew, but dissolved by a vote of her own body on the 9th day of April 1859. We being thereby destitute of any ecclesiastical connection whatever. Therefore Resolved, First, That it is expedient that we form a connection with some ecclesiastical body.

Resolved That we approve of the resolution of the United Synod in excluding the agitation of Slavery from its Judicatory.

Resolved Thirdly, That we also approve of its explanation, and mode of adopting the confession of faith as embracing the doctrines contained in the Bible.

Resolved Fourthly, That we in uniting with said Synot make no sacrifice of principle or doctrine.

Resolved Fifthly, That we the undersigned members of Hopewell Church unite with said Synot through some one of its Presbyteries as soon as practicable. Rev. Jessee Alexander, J. H. Baxter, D. Hogwood, George Peoples, Jane F. Peoples, J. W. Mabry, M. B. Mabry, M. E. Mabry, M. Mabry, W. B. White, M. C. White, E. A. White, W. M. Johns, Jane Johns, S. S. Alexander, G. B. Alexander, G. A. Alexander, J. F. Black, N. C. Black, T. B. Craner, M. A. Craner, R. D. Black, E. A. Black, Rebecca Black, Eliza Alexander, Margaret Knox, Mary F. Knox, D. N. Baxter, Robert Baxter, E. R. Baxter, S. R. Baxter, J. H. Baxter Jr., H. A. Baxter, A. E. McKnight, Amanda E. McKnight, J. T. Barkley, E. J. Barkley, Hannah Barkley, M. E. Barkley, H. K. McKnight, P. W. Hogwood, M. J. Hogwood, W. R. Hogwood Jr., H. B. Hogwood, W. R. Hogwood Sr., L. B. Creson, J. K. Creson, P. R. Creson, D. H. Creson, Lucinda R. Martin, R. J. E. McKnight, L. A. F. McKnight, J. N. McKnight, Martha A. McKnight, Pernilla McKnight, Margaret Alexander, J. C. Herndon and Martha E. Herndon. Total 58. 1859, Nov. 16 Dismissed by letter R. J. McKnight and his wife Ann F. McKnight also James F. Black and wife Nancy C. Black. Signed D. Hogwood, S.C. 1859 Nov. 19 Session met constituted with prayer and on examination received Sarah E. Craner in communion in Hopewell Church. Closed with prayer. D. Hogwood, Session Clerk. Cash paid for visiting

Brothers for Preaching in the year 1859 $106.75. D. Hogwood, S.C.

Aug. 29, 1860 Session met constituted with prayer and on examination received brother Siman Craddock in communion of Hopewell Church. D. Hogwood S.C.

Aug. 29 1860 Baptised William H. son of J. L. and Martha E. Herndon also William Thomas son of Wm. B. and C. P. White. D. Hogwood S.C.

Aug. 30th 1860 Paid Brother Marshel $16.50 for his services. D. Hogwood, S.C.

Aug. 31st 1860 Dismissed by request William M. Bradley from the Presbyterian Church at Hopewell, D. Hogwood, S. C.

Session met, constituted with prayer and appointed D. Hogwood delegate to the next meeting of Presbytery to be held at Pulaski, Giles Co. on the 5th of Oct. 1860. D. Hogwood, S.C.

Clerk of Session of Hopewell Church makes the following report to North Alabama Presbytery to wit: Members now in communion 55, added since last report 2, dismissed 4, Baptisms no adults 2 infants. Collections. Commissioners fund contingent $123.25

Examined and approved thus far by Presbytery of North Alabama, Pulaski Oct. 6, 1860 Robart Hardin, Moderator.

Dec. 24th 1860 Cast paid to Brother G. Eagleton $10.60, D. Hogwood S.C. 1861.

Jan. 15. Collected for repairs $2.30, paid out to T. B. Craner $2.13, D. Hogwood.

April 29. Cash paid to Bro. Shields commissioners Fund $7.00.

Cash paid Clerk of Presbytery $.75 D. Hogwood S.C.

August 8th. Baptised Samuel Black, son of Thomas B. and Mary Craner, D. Hogwood, S.C.

Aug. 15. Cash paid to Bro. Styles $15.50. Cash for other _____. $4.50 D. Hogwood, S.C.

Oct. 2nd Collected for Home Missions and paid over to Bro. Eagleton $14.25, D. Hogwood, S.C.

The Session Clerk report to North Alabama Presbytery the Statistics for the year 1861 viz: Whole number 55 infants 1 Congregational collections $33.10. Domestic collections $14.25. Miscellaneous $9.70, Total $57.05. D. Hogwood, S.C.

Examined and approved thus far, Petersburg Oct. 4th 1861

W.E. Caldwell, Moderator

Son W. B. Hogwood departed this life Dec. 12th, 1861, D. Hogwood C.S.

Brother Hugh L. White departed this life on the 3rd day of April 1862, D. Hogwood.

Brother L. B. Creson departed this life on the 23rd day of March 1863, D. Hogwood.

Rev. Jessee Alexander departed this life on the 15th day of June 1863, D. Hogwood.

Brother A. Barkley departed this life on the 26th day of June 1863, D. Hogwood.

Sister Jane F. Peobles departed this life on the 4th day of May 1864, D. Hogwood.

Sister M. E. Dill departed this life on the 7th of Aug., 1864 D. Hogwood.

Sister Nancy McKnight departed this life on the 25th May 1865

D. Hogwood.

John R. and Sally A. son and daughter of Brother J. C. and Sister M. E. Herndon was baptised on the 21st May 1865. D. Hogwood S.C. Brother Wm. M. Johns departed 26 Aug. 1865.

Sept. 13th 1865 Session met constituted with prayer on examination received Brother Wm. R. McDougal in communion Hopewell Church, D. Hogwood. Also Sister Sarah J. White.

Also Brother D. D. Hogwood.

Also Sister Sarah A. Bradley.

Also Sister Ann E. Hogwood.

Also Brother David E. McKnight., the last received baptism, D. Hogwood, S.C.

Sept. 14th 1864. Session met, constituted with prayer. On examination received Brother Andrew B. Creson and Dennison H. Bradley in communion Hopewell Church.

Sept. 24th 1865, Session met, constituted with prayer. On examination received the following persons in Communion, Hopewell Church:

Sisters Lochia W. Weatherly - Baptised.

Ann C. Weatherly, Elvira R. Craner and Brother Larkin L. Barber.

Hopewell Congregation was called to meet on the 23rd of September 1865 by Rev. Henn C. Smith for the purpose of electing two Elders which resulted in the election of Brother H. A. Baxter and Thomas B. Craner. D. Hogwood C.S.

Oct. 7th 1865. After sermon, Brother H. A. Baxter was ordained Elder of Hopewell Church Congregation by Rev. H. C. Smith,

D. Hogwood, S.C.

Oct. 7th 1865. Session met and examined and received Brother J. H. White in Communion of Hopewell Church. D. Hogwood, S.C.

Oct. 10th 1865. After sermon the session met on examination received the following persons to wit:

Sister Mary E. Black - Baptised

William A. Black - Baptised

John B. Creson, Mary M. White. Closed with prayer. D. Hogwood, S.C.

Oct. 18th 1865. Brother John H. Baxter, Jr. departed this life in the triumph of faith in Jesus. D. Hogwood, S. C.

Nov. 20th 1865. Session met constituted with prayer and on examination wit: Sister J. Hogwood. She gave satisfaction to the session that she had obtained forgiveness for her transgression and she was reinstated. Closed by prayers. D. Hogwood, C.S.

Lucy F. McKnight departed this life Dec. 11, 1862, D. Hogwood, S.C.

Rebecca Black departed this life Sept. 26th 1862, D. Hogwood, S.C.

Isbellar Huddleston departed this life Jan. 7, 1864, D. Hogwood, S.C.

Nov. 27th 1865. Sister Mary Anderson dismissed by letter of her request, D. Hogwood, S.C.

Collections taken up at Hopewell Church for the sustentation fund received $26.40 March 25th 1866 and handed to Rev. H. C. Smith, D. Hogwood, S.C.

Sister N. H. Knox departed this life. She died in the Triumph of Faith in Jesus April 24th 1866. D. Hogwood, S.C.

Sister Sarah M. McKnight consort of Joseph D. McKnight departed this life the 21st day of May 1866 in Triumph of Faith in Christ. D. Hogwood, S.C.

A Sacramental meeting commenced at Hopewell Church Friday night the 25th of May 1866. Ministers present Brothers: Smith and E. T. Brantly. Session met at the house of Benjamin Knox on Saturday constituted with prayer and on examination Brother Benjamin Knox in Communion Hopewell Church. On Sabbath a collection was taken up to defray the expenses of the meeting and received eleven dollars and forty-five cents which was paid out to Bro. E. T. Brantley five dollars and $5.00 for wine. This 27th day of May 1866. D. Hogwood, S.C.

Hopewell Church August 25th 1866 at the request of Rev. H. C. Smith, session met constituted with prayer. Present: Rev. H. C. Smith, Brother J. H. Baxter, H. A. Baxter, D. Hogwood, Rev. H. C. Smith, Moderator. Brother J. H. Baxter was appointed a delegate to Presbytery and D. Hogwood his alternate to attend Presbytery at Louisburg which will meet Friday at 11 o"clock A.M. before the Second Sunday of Sept. On motion of D. Hogwood the case of Col. _____ came up for discussion and consideration and whereas said _____ during a revival last summer made profession of religion and sought connection with this church and was admitted to membership but soon after was guilty of drunkenness and swindling and other crimes and has left for parts unknown so that process cannot be had in his case resolved therefore he be expelled which was adopted. D. Hogwood, S. C.

The session clerk report to North Alabama Presbytery the Statistics for the year ending Oct. 1 1861 to Sept. 1 1866. Last report

members 55, added on examination 15, adults baptised 4, infants baptised 2, deaths 15, expelled 1, total in communion 54. Total in funds $11.40, D. Hogwood, S.C.

The Committee appointed to examine the session records of Hopewell Church would state that in their opinion nothing should be recorded but the acts of the session. These records contain statistical reports-accounts of baptisms and deaths- which ought not to be in the book. They also notice that in the minutes of sessional meeting no names are mentioned of Elders present-- and most of the meetings seem to have been held without being constituted with prayer. The book should also be paged with the criticisms which your Com. think just. We recommend the approval of the record to this date.

Sept. 8th 1866. Examined and approved with the above exception. Lewisburg, Tenn, Sept. 8, 1869. J. Simpson Frierson. Mod. Per. North Alabama.

Sept. 23, 1866 paid for wine $2.50 J. Hogwood S.C.

Sister E. R. Baxter consort of J. H. Baxter departed this life on the 17th day of November 1866.

Jan. 10, 1867. Paid to Brother J. N. Caldwell for visit to Hopewell Church Five dollars. D. Hogwood, S.C.

Feb. 21st 1867. Dismissed by letter Brother John Herndon by his request by order of Session. D. Hogwood, S.C.

March 4th, 1867. Dismissed by letter Brother D. H. Creson by his request and by order of Session. D. Hogwood, S.C.

March 10, 1867. Dismissed by letter Brother Thos C. Barkley and Sister N. J. Barkley by their request and by order of Session. D. Hogwood, S.C.

April 8th 1867. Brother J. H. Baxter was appointed a delegate to Presbytery at Murfreesboro which meets the 9th of April. D. Hogwood, S.C.

The Committee to whom was referred the Records of Hopewell Church report-Approved as far as written with the following exceptions. That there is no mention made of the sessions being opened and closed with prayer.

2. That extraneous matters are recorded in the minutes with deaths statistical and personal matters. These matters ought to be kept apart.

3. Members are dismissed without record being made where they are dismissed to.

4. There is no mention made of the Elders being present at the meetings of the session. The names of Moderator and Elders ought to be recorded as present at each meeting. Adopted by Presbytery at Murfreesboro, Tenn, April 10, 1967.

Robert R. Moore, Moderator.

Sept. 16th 1867. Session met Brothers present: Rev. McFeaters, Elders J. H. Baxter, H. A. Baxter and D. Hogwood. Rev. McFeaters Moderator opened with prayer on motion D. Hogwood was appointed a delegate to Presbytery to meet at the Hermitage Church Sept. 20th, at 11 o'clock A.M. Closed with prayer, D. Hogwood.

Sept. 23rd 1867. Tax paid to Brother Bunten (Burten) for Synod Presbytery tax, $1.00, Commission fund total $4.50. D. Hogwood, S.C.

Dismissed following members by letter: Sister Jane R. Creson, Priscella R. Patton and Brothers John B. Creson, Andrew B. Creson, by order of Session Sept. 31, 1867. Collected for foreign missions

paid to Bunten $1.00, D. Hogwood.

Oct. 4th, 1867. Sacramental meeting commenced at Hopewell Church the 4th of Oct. 1867. Brothers present Rev. McFeater and W. L. Rossen. The gospel was preached in demonstration of the spirit and with power many were convinced of sin and fourteen professed faith in Jesus Christ and conversion to God. The meetings were kept up with interest until the 11th during the ocasion the Church of Hopewell were greatly refreshed. Session met constituted with prayer and on examination received into membership in the Hopewell Church Ella I. Weatherly and Martha A. Whitlock. Closed with prayer. D. Hogwood, S.C. Last report members 54, dismissed 4, members at present 50.

April 24th 1868, D. Hogwood, C.S. Total amount payed out by church from Sept. 16th to April 1868 $223.95.

Sacramental meeting commenced at Hopewell Church May 2nd 1868. Ministers present Rev. E. T. Brantley, Rev. McFeaters. The weather inclement the meeting close Sabbath evening. Collection taken up to defray expenses of Commissioners fund and Presbyteral Tad whih wre $13.15. Rec. by colection $12.15 Wine cost paid by D. Hogwood $15.00. Total $26.80. D. Hogwood S.C.

Sept. 16th 1868. Collected for Presbyterial Mission paid over to Presbytery $3.75. D. Hogwood, S.C.

Jan. 3rd 1869. Collected for Sustination $12.00 Handed to Rec. McFeaters D. Hogwood. S.C.

April 4th 1869. Collected for Commissioners Fund $3.00.

April 15th 1869. Per last report to Presbytery total number 60, dismissed 2 total number in communion 58. Total amount pay out by church paid Bro. McFeaters $116.20 (This is very dim and hard

to read, may be $16.20).

May 24th 1869 Departed this life S. E. Cranor. D. Hogwood S.C.

Sacremental meeting at Hopewell Church Wine cost $2.00 paid by D. Hogwood May 24th 1869. D. Hogwood S.C.

August 7th 1869. Collected for Presbyterial Missions in D. Hogwood hands $9.15, paid over to Presbytery at Murfreesboro, D. Hogwood, S.C.

Sept. 5th 1869. Sacremantal meeting at Hopewell Church. Ministers present Rev. McFeaters, Rev. N. L. Rossen and Rev. E. T. Brantley Continued seven days in which time we trust that ten or eleven was hopefully converted. Collection for expences for the _____ $10.10. Paid out for wine Spring and Fall $3.50. For chares $2.00, for candle holders $1.25. For tax to Synot $5.00. Paid to Bro. W. L. Rosson for services $16.00 paid for candle $2.00. D. Hogwood S.C.

January 7th 1870 Departed this life S. R. Baxter. She died in the Triumph of Faith in Christ. D. Hogwood, S.C.

Feb. 6th 1870 Collected for Sustentation $9.00 sent to Bro. H. B. Boude, D. Hogwood S.C.

Departed this life Feb. 26th 1870 S. J. Martin formerly S. J. White. D. Hogwood, S.C.

Departed this life Elizabeth A. Black the 26th day March 1870 consort of R. D. Black. D. Hogwood, S.C.

Per last report to Presbytery at Shelbyville April 4th 1870 64. Added in examination 2 added on certificate 8 Baptisms adults 2. Money contritacted $255.00. D. Hogwood.

June 26th 1870 Mary T. Vaught departed this life, consort of

Thomas Vaught.

July 9th 1870 **Jane** Johns departed this life the above date. Widow of Wm. Johns.

Departed this life Mrs. Wm. McKnight the 17th day of August 1870. (This may be Mr. it is only a M. and a line with a dot over it.)

Collected for hym books for Hopewell Church $9.20. Paid for question books $9.00 paid for church expences $12.00. D. Hogwood.

Collected for Education Sept. 6th 1870 sent to Presbytery $21.00 by E. A. Baxter.

John H. White departed this life Oct. 5th 1870.

Jan. 1st 1871. Paid Rev. M. Featers $225.00. Paid Rev. R. Caldwell traveling expences $12.35.

Per last report to Presbytary at McMinnville April 1, 1870 to April 1, 1871 Members in communion 62 added on examination 1 on certificate 1. Money contributed $288.65. D. Hogwood S.C.

Collected for Presbyteral tax and commissioners fund $9.15 April 16th 1871.

Baptism of Rev. E. T. Brantley, Mrs. M. E. Brantley and children William Edwin and Ally Brantley May 2y, 1871.

Collected for Presbyterial Mission June 4th 1871 $6.00 handed to Rev. R. Caldwell. Six dollars for Rev. J. H. McNealy, Nashville. D. Hogwood. S.C.

Cost of wine $1.40 paid by D. Hogwood.

Collected Home Missions seven dollars handed to J. H. Baxter Sept. 2nd 1871. D. Hogwood. S.C.

Sept. 20th 1871. The fall protracted meeting was held in Hopewell Church. The opening sermon was preached by Rev. R.

Caldwell from Romans 10-1. Good Congregation. At night services were conducted by Rev. Mr. McFeaters. On Sabboth a very large congregation. Sermon by Rev. M. McFeaters. The communion largely partaken of and a most pleasant and solemn season was realized. Meetings were held from day to day until Friday night. The closing service was one of uncommon solemnity. The people of God were all tenderness and love and the congregation overwhelmed at the scene. During the occasion inquiring and prayer meetings were held and every morning for the benefit of sinnors and inquiring sinnors. These meetings were full on interest. Souls were converted and Christian hearts were filled with joy. The result of the meeting was as follows Fourteen professions all uniting with the church. It should not be omitted that Bro. Branley gave his valuable assistance during this occasion. Collected to pay expences $8.45. Paid out for plank, $5.50. Paid J. H. Baxter $2.70, paid for wine $1.25. paid for candles $1.00 paid Rev. M. McFeaters $13.65. Paid for books for Sunday School $7.20. this Oct. 17th, 1871. $39.75. Collected for education $7.00 Nov. 5th 1871.

At a church meeting heald 5th Nov. 1871 S. S. Alexander was elected Ruling Elder and H. B. Hogwood and Wm. A. Black was elected Deacons. Collected for Sustentation Jan. 24 1872 paid Bro. J. W. Neel fourteen dollars.

Hopewell Congregation collected for Publication March 3rd 1872 $6.00 Sent to J. W. Niel. D. Hogwood C.S. Murfreesboro.

Per last report to Nashville Presbytery at Gallatin April 1 1871 to April 1, 1872. number of communicants 75. recd on examination 14. on certificate 1 dismissed 1. Baptisms adults 3

Infiant 2. Monday collected $395.00.

Publication $6.00. Sustentation $14.00. Education $7.00. Home Missions $7.00. Presbyterry tax $15.00, Congregation $39.00. Preachers sallary $307.00. D. Hogwood S.C.

Collected for Presbyterial Tax handed to H. A. Baxter $6.90 also for Brother Dr. R. H. Chapman handed to Rev. Chapman $8.00. D. Hogwood, C.S.

Milton May 19, 1872. Collected for Forren Mission at our Cacnemenital meetning handed to W. L. Rossen $8.00. also paid for wine $1.25 (spelling of above is exact copy of minute book). Paid by Sunday School book $3.60. Paid catechism 30 vol. $.60. D. Hogwood S.C.

Benjamin Knox departed this life the 2nd day of June 1872. D. Hogwood S.C.

J. W. McKnight departed this life the 17th 1872 of June. D. Hogwood S.C.

Collected for disable ministers Aug. 4th 1872 handed to W. L. Rossen $7.00.

Paid for Sunday School books in Aug. 4th 1872 $7.00. D. Hogwood S.C.

Amanda E. McKnight Children Baptised the 4th July 1872 the names as follows. Flora E., Ida M., Wm. M., Wesley A., Quinta E., Sexta By Rev. W. L. Rossen.

Departed this life Margret Knox on the 21 1872 (no month given but is between entry of July 4 1872 and Aug. 25, 1872).

Paid for Sunday School books August 25th 1872 $7.00. D. Hogwood S.C.

Della Weatherly departed this life the 18th of Oct. 1872.

Collected for Presbyterial mission Oct. 20th 1872 handed to Rev. W. L. Rosson $6.00. Collected for Education March 16th 1873 $10.00 handed to W. L. Rosson.

Departed this life Mary J. Baxter consort of R. H. Baxter the 25th of January 1873.

Report to Presbytery 1873:

| | |
|---|---|
| Members in communion | 63 |
| Rec. on examination | 3 |
| Rec. on certificat | 1 |
| Dismissed | 1 |
| Baptised infants | 6 |

Money for all funds $330.45.

Approved by order of Presby Alex Cowan Moderator

May 18th 1873 Collected for foreign mission handed to W. L. Rosson $11.00. Collected for disabled ministers Aug. 17th 1873 handed to Rev. W. L. Rosson $12.00. Collected for Home Missions Sept. 7th 1873 handed to W. L. Rossen $29.00.

Milton Oct. 2nd 1873 T. B. Craner departed this life on the above date.

Nov. 16th 1873 Collected for education handed to W. L. Rossen $11.45

S. A. Craner departed this life Nov. 18th 1873.

Collected for Sustentian Feb. 15th 1874 handed to Rev. W. L. Rossen $12.50. Collected for publication April 18th 1874 handed to Rev. W. L. Rossen $7.50.

Per last report to Presbytery from April 1873 to April 1874.

| | |
|---|---|
| Members | 60 |
| added on examination | 12 |
| on certificate | 1 |
| deaths | 2 |
| total | 73 |
| deaths | 2 |
| dismissed | 8 |
| total in communion | 63 |

| | |
|---|---|
| collected for foreign mission | $11.00 |
| disabled ministers | 12.00 |
| Home mission | 29.00 |
| Education | 11.45 |
| Sustentation | 12.50 |
| Publication | 7.00 |
| for Rev. W. L. Rossen | 200.00 |
| for Congregational | 50.00 |
| Total collected to April 18 | 332.95 |

Paid over. D. Hogwood, S.C.

June 7th 1874 Collected for foreign mission handed to Rev. W. L. Rosson $16.00.

Aug. 2nd 1874 Collected for disabled ministers handed to Rev. W. L. Rossen $10.00.

October 4th 1874 Collected for Presbyterial missions $17.00.

Oct. 9th 1874 Collected for Rev. J. W. Hoyte $10.00.

J. W. Mabry departed this life Nov. 30, 1874.

Collected Congregational $2.85.

Nov. 1st 1874. Congregation met and elected the following Brothers as Elders. Was elected J. C. Herndon, S. N. Weatherly, and H. G. Johnes. Also elected Deacons R. F. Baxter and Jas. N. McKnight. D. Hogwood, S.C.

Dec. 6th 1874 Being the regular day of meeting at Hopewell Church, H. G. Johns and J. C. Herndon were ordained and installed and J. M. Wetherly previous elected and ordained Elder of Stone River Congregation was installed Ruling Elders of the above named Church also J. N. McKnight, R. F. Baxter were ordained and W. D.

White elected and ordained deacons in the above church.

Collected for education $14.00

| | |
|---|---|
| Per last report | 63 |
| Examined | 10 |
| Death | 1 |
| Dismissed | 3 |
| Excommunicated | 1 |
| Total Communicants | 68 |

Baptised 4 adults, Collected $302.00 (all funds.)

June 10th 1875 Ann E. Craner formally Ann E. Wetherly departed this life on this date.

July 2nd 1875 Margaret Alexander departed this life on the above date.

Hopewell Church Milton Tennessee April 30, 1875. Elders and Deacons met and on motion Bro. D. Hogwood chosen chairman and Bro. H. G. Johns Secretary. After prayer by the Chairman the Chairman explained the object of the meeting to be to lay off the work of the Deacons and Elders. Ordered by the meeting that the Chair appoint a Committee of Three to lay off the work of the Elders and Deacons. The Chair appointed as the Committees Bros. White, Weatherly and H. A. Baxter the Committee. The Committee reported as follows: The North Division beginning at Margaret Alexander's on the Turnpike, thence with S. I. Road to the school house near Milton, thence went including Mrs. Elrod and John Dillon and all north, Middle Division: Beginning on John W. Spain thence being west so as to include Dillard McKnight. In the Middle Division thence West to the Creek at T. B. Vaughts gate, thence west with S. N. Creek all South of S. N. line to the Stones River Church line is included in the 3rd Division. The 1st Division is assigned to Bro. R. F.Baxter the 2nd Division to Bro. W. B. White and the 3rd Division to Bro. Jas. N. McKnight.

James N. McKnight was Elected Secretary of the Board of Deacons and W. B. White Treasurer. Minutes were read and approved the meeting adjourned. H. L. Johns, Sec.

Collections taken up in the Hopewell Church for Congregational and other.

Per last report members 83 (note: this does not talley with report as given on preceeding report, but I copied it as given).

| | |
|---|---|
| deaths | 3 |
| dismissed | 1 |
| excommunicated | 1 |
| baptised | 1 |
| total in communion | 78 |

David N. Baxter departed this life July 26th 1876. H. G. Johns, S.C. Protem.

N. A. Baxter departed this life August 21st 1876 calmly trusting in Christ (this may be H. A. Baxter, it is a strange character, hard to read).

Session and Deacons meeting at Church March 18th 1877. Present Rev. W. L. Rossen Moderator, Elders present J. H. Baxter, J. C. Herndon, H. G. Johns and D. Hogwood. Deacons present: Jas. W. McKnight, W. B. White and R. F. Baxter. Constituted with prayer report of Deacons is as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sustentation | $20.00 | |
| Evangelistic | 15.00 | |
| Invalid | 10.35 | |
| Foreign mission | 25.00 | |
| Publication | 11.00 | |
| Education | 18.70 | |
| Presbyterial | 18.50 | |
| Pastors Salary pd. | 200.00 | |
| Congregational | 23.45 | Total $341.85 |

Fifty dollars of the amount was given George Peables of Hopewell, D. Hogwood

Report last to Presbytery at Shiloh April 1st 1877.

| | |
|---|---|
| Total in Communion from last report | 83 |
| added on examination | 11 |
| Baptism Adults | 8 |
| deaths | 2 |
| Total | 92 |

Collected in 1877 April 1st and payed $332.85
Children in Sabbath School 38.
Elders 4, Deacons 3. D. Hogwood, S.C.

April 7th 1878 per last report to Presbytery total in communion 92

| | |
|---|---|
| added upon examination | 3 |
| added on certificate | 2 |
| adult baptisms | 3 |
| infants | 1 |
| No. of baptisms non communicants | 13 |
| Excommunicated | 6 |
| Total in Communion | 91 |

Collected since last report $363.00. Pastors salary paid $200.00.
No. of Elders 4, No. of Deacons 3. Children in S. S. 60.
H. G. Johns. S. C. Protem.

Sept. 5th 1878. Baptised Edgar Brantley son of S. P. and Mary J. Brantley.

Brother George Peebles departed this life the 21st April 1879.

Sister Lucinda R. Martin departed this life 19th June 1879.

Sister Ella J. Wetherly departed this life the 16th of May 1880.

Brother J. H. Baxter departed this life the 25th of Oct. 1880.
D. Hogwood S.C.

Saturday May 28th 1881. The Congregation met at the Church and according to previous appointments went into the Election of Two Ruling Elders for this Church. Elders J. C. Herndon and H. G. Johns were appointed tellers of said Election which resulted in the election of George Lorances and Robert Baxter as Ruling Elders. H. G. Johns C. of S. Protem.

Sabbath Morning May 29th 1881. Congregation met for public worship and for celebration of the Sacrament of the Lords Supper, when before the morning sermon George Lorances was ordained a Ruling Elder for Hopewell Church by prayer and the laying on of the Hands of the Session. H. G. Johns, C. of S. Protem.

Approved by Presbytery of Nashville as far as written at Waverly Church April 1st 1882.

May 6 1883. Bessie F. Thompson, Infant daughter of Rev. G. E. and Cora C. Thompson was baptised by Rev. J. S. Arbuthnot, D.D. H. G. Johns, S.C. Protem.

The regular Spring Sacramental meeting was held on Sabbath May 7 and on Sat. preceeding. Rev. J. S. Arbuthnot D.D. of Murfreesboro Church preached both days and the people of God were much edified and strengthened and enjoyed a happy session of Grace. H. G. Johns. S.C. Protem.

The regular fall meeting of the Presbytery of Nashville having met with Hopewell Church on Friday before the Third Sabbath in September 14th, 1882. The meetings were continued after the adjournment of Presbytery. Rev. G. A. Russell of Franklin Tennessee had intended to remain and preach for us but was prevented by sickness. Rev. E. Brantley Jr. remained and preached with much earnestness and power. The Church was much edified and strengthened and we hope an abundant harvest may follow the Sowing of so much good seed. H. G. Johns, S.C. Protem.
At his meeting of Presbytery on Saturday 15th, John R. Herndon a member of the church was taken under the care of the Presbytery as a candidate for Gospel Ministry.

Brother R. D. Black who had been a member of Hopewell Church since the year 1830 a quiet unassuming Christian living in peace with all men and full of the Faith of the Gospel was gathered as a ripe sheaf into the garner of the "Master" on the 26th of Jan. 1883. H. G. Johns S.C. protem.

# HISTORY OF STONES RIVER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
# 1816-1973

by Ester Couch

The Stones River Presbyterian Church, U.S., located in the 17th District, Rutherford County, Tennessee, near the east branch of Stones River, was organized April 1, 1816, by the Rev. Jesse Eagleston Alexander. It was the out-growth of a camp meeting previously held about three miles from the present church on the road to Milton. After meeting for some years in a small log building on the opposite side of the road from the present church, Jacob Wright, whose wife, Becky, was a member of the Stones River Church, gave the land on which Stones River and Antioch Churches are built; Antioch is a Church of Christ, of which Mr. Wright was a member. The deed was recorded in 1848.

A big log building with twelve corners was built just east of the present church. This building was replaced by a frame building on the same ground in 1878, and the log building was torn away. An addition of Sunday School rooms was added about 1954 or 1955.

This building is in good state of repair. Worship services are held each Sunday, and other activities, as the program of the church directs.

The following were charter members of the church:

James, Eleanor, William and Isabell McKnight
Joseph and Jane Knox
Charles and Polly Ready
Joseph and Jane Weatherspoon
Charles and Jane Porterfield
Polly Weatherspoon
Peggy, David and Polly Andrews
John and Sarah Henderson
John, Peggy, Moses, and Rixney McKnight
John M., Peggy, and Abigal McKnight

Some of the ministers who have served as pastors:

Rev. Jesse Eagleton Alexander, E. T. Brantley and his son, Erskine
Rev. Thompson
Rev. Mosley
Rev. A. J. Crane, 1901-1902
Rev. T. A. Patton, 1903-1907
Rev. T. R. Riley
Rev. W. W. Patton
Rev. Mr. Johnson
Rev. W. H. Matherson
Rev. William Janes
Rev. Wythe M. Peyton, Jr., (present pastor)

Four men from this church were ordained ministers: Erskine Brantley, Walter Creson, Charlie Ralston, and Henry Sneed. They helped to carry the Work of God to other parts of Tennessee and to other states.

It might be interesting to note that Frank and Silva Brantley, descendants of Brantley slaves, attended preaching services regularly until their deaths in early 1900's.

by Esther Couch
1974

# HISTORY

## CRIPPLE CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## 1940

by Miss Pearl Youree

The records of the Cripple Creek Presbyterian Church were destroyed by fire in the year 1927, a regrettable and irreparable loss, but from deeds and records of our sister churches, Stones River and Hopewell, we have secured a partial outline of the history of our beloved church.

The Church was organized either in 1820 or 1821 with the following charter members who were dismissed from the Stone River Church:

| | |
|---|---|
| James Bowle | Thomas Berry |
| Margaret Bowle | Sarah Berry |
| Mary Bowle | Francis Youree |
| Nancy Bowle | Elizabeth Youree |

Nancy Neely

Of these James Bowle and Thomas Berry were ruling elders.

It is not known positively where these first worshipped, but it is known that a site of worship, very probably a log school house, about one-half mile from the present building, was used very soon after organization.

A church building was erected some time before 1830 a few hundred yards across the creek from and directly in front of the present building. The land upon which this first building had already been erected was given by Richard Standridge, the deed being written September 14, 1830, but not recorded until 1839. The elders who received the deed were Francis Youree and John Neely.

The name of the church changed about this time to

Standridge Church (generally mispronounced as Standard's) whether from gradual usage of the donor's name or from deliberate choice is not known, but supposedly the former. The name was changed back to Cripple Creek about the first of this century during the pastorate of the Rev. T. A. Patton.

We have no record of the disposition of either building or land, but we do have in our possession a deed for two and one-half acres, dated Feb. 24, 1869, granted by William Patrick, Benjamin Becton and wife, and Mary Becton to the elders of the Cripple Creek Presbyterian Church, on the west bank of Cripple Creek for the consideration of fifteen dollars ($15.00). In that year, 1869, or very soon after, the present structure, a one room wooden building 60 feet long, 40 feet wide, and 25 feet high was erected. Several improvements including a belfry, pews, concrete steps, and other small items have been added from time to time.

This church having branched from the Stones River Church it has kept rather closely associated with this church throughout the years. We find various accounts of some famous camp meetings being held on McKnights Camp Ground, a plot of two or more acres, well shaded with hugh beech trees. There these meetings were held once or twice a year with a record of 535 conversions in 18 meetings, these uniting with the Hopewell, Stones River, and Cripple Creek Churches, thus greatly strengthening these churches in numbers and faith. That was a time of much manifest interest, sometimes as many as fifteen visiting ministers attending during one meeting.

The first pastor of our church was Jesse Alexander, who served the Murfreesboro Church; "Mr. Alexander was born January

15, 1781, in North Carolina, immigrating to Tennessee in October, 1802 and settling near Milton, in Rutherford County. He was licensed to preach September 2, 1814 by Shiloh Presbytery and was ordained pastor of Stones River and Hopewell Churches April 7, 1817. He also served the Cripple Creek Church. Mr. Alexander's labors continued over a period of the churches mentioned. He lost his eyesight and for many years the blind preacher was a familiar sight with his saddle-bags and Bible as he rode on Sundays to fill his appointments, and his faithful horse was his only guide. The horse knew where to carry his master and never failed to keep the right appointment. He also know where the most cordial welcome awaited them and would draw up and stop at the gates of the members who loved to entertain the preacher."

In the unpublished record of the Hopewell Church we find that this godly man departed this life June 15, 1863 still in the service of these Churches.

We also find from the above mentioned records that four years prior to Mr. Alexander's death the Stones River and Hopewell Churches had belonged to Shiloh Presbytery which did not withdraw from the General Assembly of the United States of America in common with most other Southern Presbyteries, but dissolved by a vote of its own body in April, 1859. These churches then attached themselves to North Alabama Presbytery sometime before 1872, that being the first date this presbytery is mentioned in the record.

When our church was left without a pastor because of Mr. Alexander's death, several visiting ministers came to her felief over a period of four years, one of which, the Rev.

H. C. Smith served almost two years. The others mentioned at this time were the Reverends Matt Marshall, A. Bradshaw, and E. T. Brantley. We were unable to secure any date on the lives of these men.

In the fall of 1867 the Rev. M. A. McFeaters, a man of consecration and piety and very quick in his denunciation of any evil, was called as stated supply, serving more than three years.

The Rev. Robert Caldwell, a man of mighty qualities for good, was chosed as the next shepherd of this small flock. However, duties called him elsewhere and he remained with our church but one year, beginning March 7, 1871.

Rev. W. L. Rosser, whose worth was already known and attested by results in previous series of meetings on the camp ground and in the church group, began a nine year ministry in this group in May, 1872. This period was characterized by much religious activity and in an increase in the prosperity of the church.

He was the father of Miss Ray Rosser who for several years has been the beloved teacher of Bible at Monroe Harding Home.

In December, 1881 Rev. George E. Thompson was called as stated supply but was ordained in September, 1882. This young man came to us shortly after graduation from Southwestern Presbyterian University at Clarksville and Union Theological Seminary at Hampden-Sidney, Virginia.

The records of Hopewell state that this young man was employed to give that church one-half his time at a salary of $225. We suppose that he divided the other half between Cripple Creek and Stones River. He labored in this field for a period

of seven and one-half years.

After being without a pastor from May, 1889 until October, 1889, the Rev. J. W. Mosely served almost two years as stated supply.

The group was then without a pastor for almost a year. In April, 1892 Rev. A. J. Crane, a licenciate of Knoxville Presbytery canvassed the field and was called for a pastorate of ten years.

The Rev. T. A. Patton came to this field as stated supply, remaining five years. The following is taken from an obituary published in the Christian Observer and written by Rev. A. S. Allen: "Rev. T. A. Patton was born September, 23, 1867, and died September 10, 1924. At the age of sixteen he joined the Mt. Vernon Presbyterian Church in Wilson County, Tennessee. Here he grew to young manhood, and at the age of twenty-six married Miss Sallie Louisa Turney. To this union were born twelve children, ten sons and two daughters. One of the girls died in infancy.

After he was married and several children had come into the family he felt a strong call from God to preach the gospel of Christ. And at a great sacrifice and inconvenience to himself and family, he with his family moved to Clarksville, Tennessee, to prepare for his life work. Here he took both literary and theological courses in Southwestern Presbyterian University.

He began his ministry in Asheville Presbytery, N.C, In Sept. of 1901. His field of labor was Bryson City and Dillsboro. In March, 1903, he was called to the Milton group in the Presbytery of Nashville. This group was composed of Milton, Stones

River, and Cripple Creek. He served the Milton group until 1908; when he was called to take charge of the Monroe Harding Children's Home, Nashville, Tenn. After one year's service at this institution he was called back to the Milton group.....

In October, 1923, he was called to take charge of the Watertown group of churches in the Presbytery of Nashville. This group is composed of Buffalo Valley, Mt. Olivet, Mt. Vernon, and Spring Creek. He was now back in the field of his childhood and a young manhood, a happy man. His health soon gave way to a ravaging disease and he rapidly declined to the day of his death, September 10, 1924."

It was during his pastorate that our belfry was built and the bell for the belfry was bought and installed. The money for these improvements was secured through the efforts of Mr. Patton who bought pigs and gave them out to the boys and girls of the church who fed and sold them and gave the proceeds to the church.

There has never been a more highly esteemed or better beloved pastor on this field than this Godly man.

During the year of Mr. Patton's service at Monroe Harding Home, our group was served a few months by Rev. A. A. Dubois, a Baptist minister, who had united with the First Presbyterian Church of Nashville, and came to this field on the recommendation of his pastor, Dr. William Anderson. In September, 1908, he left us to enter Southwestern University under the care of Presbytery as a candidate for the ministry.

The Rev. R. Q. Riley became our pastor in March, 1911, remaining until 1919. This good man was very faithful in carrying out his pastoral duties. His old horse, John, and the buggy

with the back curtain rolled up in summer, or with a storm apron tightly fastened on in winter, became a familiar and beloved sight moving about the countryside. He was the power behind the throne when our pews were remodeled, a carpet bought, and the church painted on the outside.

Mr. Riley was born January 24, 1865 in Kosciusko, Mississippi. He received his education in French Camp Academy and Southwestern, graduating from the latter in June, 1894, leaving there to begin his first pastorate the first Sunday in July. He served his church in five states over a period of forty-five years. He is now retired and living in Memphis.

In 1920 Rev. J. G. Johnson began an eighteen month pastorate of this group, which now included Woodbury. He made his home there as all the succeeding pastors have done. Mr. Johnson, the eldest of seven children, was born in Choctaw County, Alabama, September 8, 1868, but moved with his parents in infancy to West Station, Mississippi, where he spent his early years attending the free schools and helping with the expenses of the large family. At the age of twenty-six he left home to begin three years preparatory work in French Camp, Mississippi. He was then in Southwestern four years. He has been preaching since 1902 when he began his work in Dickson ans Waverly. He is now pastor of the Madison Church. On December 20, 1905 he married Miss Isabelle Hopkins Boyd of Covington. To this union two sons were born.

We were without a pastor for some months after Mr. Johnson left. He was succeeded by the Rev. W. W. Patton who was here four years 1923-1927. As have been so many of our pastors, he was a graduate of Southwestern. It was during his ministry

that concrete steps were erected at the front entrance. Mr. Pattons wife was Miss Laura Neil, who with three children survive him, since his death in 1936 at Watertown, his childhood home.

After Mr. Patton left us to go to Alabana, he was followed by Claude C. Williams, a young man who had come into the U.S. Church, from the U.S.A. Church. He served as stated supply for some months during 1928-1929, never being received into the Nashville Presbytery.

Our present pastor, the Rev. W. H. Matheson began his work in our midst in October of 1929. He is a man of integrity, very kind and gentle. In his sermons he presents God's word in its truth and simplicity. He is held in the highest esteem by every denomination.

Mr. Matheson is a native of North Carolina. His education was received at Davidson College and at Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Virginia.

He was licensed to preach May 20, 1927 by Concord Presbytery and ordained June 19, 1927 in Mecklenburg Presbytery. His first pastorate of two years was Thomasboro, North Carolina.

In 1927 he was married to Miss Laura Barclay, the daughter of a Presbyterian minister. Mrs. Matheson has been very active in church work, being Presbyterial Secretary of Young Peoples Work in 1928 in Mecklenburg Presbytery. She taught vacation church schools in the synod for two years after moving here.

Mr. and Mrs. Matheson have one child, Alice Barclay, born in November, 1937.

Our grouping has been changed this year, 1939, because of distances. Our group now consists of Stones River, Cripple Creek, Woodbury, Rock Island, and a new church, Amity, which

was organized through the efforts of Mr. Matheson and Mrs. M. B. McCrary, a member of the Woodbury Church.

## The Departments of Our Church

### The Sunday School

The Church School should ever be a very important department of any church and has been so in our church. Cripple Creek has always supported an evergreen Sunday School even though its membership has ranged from twenty-five to now more than sixty. J. D. Youree served as superintendent for many years. How well I remember, although a small child, his oft repeated prayer, "Hasten the time when the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea."

The Godly man was succeeded by W. M. Vaught a Baptist in our midst who was kind enough to help out when leadership was needed and none seemed to be forthcoming from the Presbyterians.

J. L. Burks, Bryan Lyon, a young man who died in service, Searcy Coffy, Tennyson Youree, and Craig Youree have served as superintendents during the years since 1920.

### The Auxiliary

The women organized some time before 1912 as the Ladies' Aid. Miss Pearl Youree was president when the name Ladies' Aid was changed to the Auxiliary. They later disbanded but have been reorganized twice since, the last time in 1936.

The officers at this time were: President, Mrs. W. H. Matheson; Secretary, Miss Mae Caffy; and Treasurer, Mrs. Tom B. Youree.

The present executive board consists of the following: President, Miss Pearl Youree; Vice-president, Miss Mae Caffy;

Secretary, Miss Maggie Sue Youree; Treasurer, Miss Maggie Sue Youree; Circle Chairman, Mrs. Tom B. Youree; Secretaries of Causes are; Spiritual Life, Miss Mae Caffy; Foreign Missions, Miss Kate Walkup; Assembly's Home Missions, Mrs. F. C. Youree; S. and P. Home Missions, Mrs. Tom B. Youree; Religious Education, Miss Pearl Youree; Christian Education and Ministerial Relief, Miss Mae Caffy; Pastor's Aid, Mrs. Ray Walkup; Christian Social Service, Mrs. Tom. B. Youree; Historian, Mrs. Tom B. Youree.

There being fourteen places to fill and only eight active members, there had to be some doubling and tripling in order to carry out the work of the auxiliary.

We meet twice a month, the first Thursday in the month as a circle and the third Thursday as an auxiliary. Though few in number we try to witness for Christ remembering that he said, "It is not by might nor by power, but by my spirit saith the Lord."

## The Young People

There once was a Christian Endeavor in the Church. We don't have any records to show the years.

There being so few juniors and young people and more intermediates we grouped them into one organization in April 1939, using the pioneer literature with the following officers: President, Virginia Trott; Vice-president, Dorothy Fox; Secretary and Treasurer, Edna Falkner; Adult Advisor, Miss Pearl Youree.

The present officers are: President, Edna Falkner; Vice-president, Irene Smith; Secretary-Treasurer, Fred Walkup; Adult Advisor, Miss Pearl Youree.

Daughters of the Church who have married Ministers

Miss Sue Belle Youree, the daughter of William Hall and Jimmie Herrick Youree, was married to Rev. E. S. Brainard.

At that time Mr. Brainard was pastor of the Watertown group of churches remaining there two years. They then moved to Norwood, Louisiana and from there to Humbolt, Tennessee where Mrs. Brainard died following an operation in 1919.

After three years he was married to Miss Maud C. Youree, a half sister of the first Mrs. Brainard. They are now serving the church of Welsh, Louisiana. They have one daughter, Sara Evelyn.

In July, 1910, Miss Lizzie Youree, daughter of James Francis and Sallie Nelson Youree was married to the Rev. C. N. Ralston. He was engaged in Sunday School work in Columbia Presbytery at the time. He was superintendent of Purdy Missions School in Memphis Presbytery for several years, moving from there to Ripley, Miss. where he and Mrs. Ralston are ministering to five mission churches.

Miss Annie Youree, daughter of William Hall and Sallie Craig Youree married Rev. J. B. Butler in 1916. He was pastor of Bethel Springs group of churches in McNairy County. They later moved to Fausdale, Alabama, and are now living at Hobbs Island, Alabama. Mr. Butler has recently resigned because of loss of health.

Miss Pearl Youree
Historian
By Mrs. J.O.J.

Militia Orders from Library of Congress
Furnished by Fred Brigance

Major General Andrew Jackson

Sir seeing your Division orders from the _____ of Dec.? 1811, I have requested the officers under my command to call their companies together (agreeably to the requisitions of your said orders) and know thereby what number of volunteers could be raised in my Regiment.

In consequence of which request I have received the following returns, three Captains in the First Battalion having made no returns they being absent, but I have the fullest confidence that I shall receive handsome returns from each of these companies immediately on their Capt. return home.

| First Battalion | | Men |
|---|---|---|
| Capt. | McFerren | 43 |
| " | Gordon | 21 |
| " | Ramsey | 7 |
| Second Battalion | | |
| Capt. | Reynolds | 7 |
| " | Crawford | 33 |
| " | Nash | 13 |
| " | Jetton | 12 |
| " | Hartgrove | 8 |
| " | Kindle | 31 |

one light infantry company Capt. Yardley 46
one Rifle Company Capt. Brandon 40.

The above quota of men with myself and the second major tender our services through you to the President of the United States to be in readiness at any time when called on to serve our Country.

I have not a doubt but the volunteers so named will march at any time to any place on the continent in defense of their Country.

I have established a military school in the bounds of my regiment to which all the volunteer officers above have subscribed and I hope they will improve much thereby as the teacher (Mr. Thomas Hubbard) is an old revolutionary character and who has the good of his country at heart and whose spirit is _____ with flame of seventy six.

I am Sir with deep regards
yours
James Henderson Lt. Col.
Second Regt. Rutherford Co.

Petition of Cornelius Sanders
for Revolutionary War Pension
Furnished by Christine Farrar

State of Tennessee
Wilson County Circuit Court October Term 1832

On this 25th day of October 1832 personably appeared in open court before the honorable James C. Mitchel Judge of said court now sitting Cornelius Sanders, a resident of Rutherford County State of Tennessee aged seventy years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States in January or February 1781 in a company commanded by Capt. Dred Philips as a volunteer for a term of three months. He cannot recollect the precise day he volunteered his services, he was attached to a Regiment of North Carolina militia commanded by Col. Thomas Herndon, Maj. Curlee was their major when he first joinded the army they march from Halifax in North Carolina to Hillsborough but before they got to Hillsborough Maj. Curlee for some cause left them and returned home and after that Col. Hunter? returned home and after that Col. Hunter? returned home owing to having his house burned, and then Capt. Dred Philips was elected Major in Curlees place and Axum Philips was elected Captain to Command the Company. General Thomas Eaton had the command of Brigade or division and marched the whole Force consisting as he thinks of about two thousand through Hillsborough and joind General Green's Army a few miles beyond Hillsborough, after our force united with General Greens army. The American Army under the

command of General Green recoinoitred and persued the British Army until the battle at Gilford in March 1780, he was in that battle and was in sight of Genl. Stephens at the time said General got his theigh broke and horse killed under him in that engagement, said Stephens was a General of the Virginia Militia. After the battle at Gilford he march with the American troops to Ramseys mills on deep river where he remained stationed with a part of the american troops until the experation of his three months tour when he was discharged by his Capt. Axum Philips which discharge he has lost.

A few weeks after he returned home there was a call for twelve months men his company was divided into classes consisting of twelve men and each class was to furnish one man to serve the twelve months tour. In casting lots in his class it fell upon him to serve the twelve months he march under the command of Maj. John Armstrong from Halifax, North Carolina with the other troops raised in the Halifax district composed of Edgecome and some other counties to the division under Genl. Green within four or five miles of Camden. They had not organized any companies until they joined General Green. The troops which marched from Halifax district were divided and alloted to different companies in Green's army to make them complete, they having been reduced by deaths and other causes, he was attached to a company commanded by Capt. Joshua Hadlay - Pinch Eaton was the Col. who commanded the Redgiment, Hogg, Dickson, Sharp and Armstrong commanded as Majors at different periods during the twelve months but at what periods they respectfully commanded he cannot undertake to speak distinctly at this distant time he recollects Maj. Hogg was most generally with them. After joining

Greens army we marched to a little town called Charlotte, and reconoitered, about Charlotte and Camden sometime, and then marched to Ninety six and beseiged the British garrison enfort at that place. He recollects the troops were employed in digging a trench towards the British fort. It was (rumered) the design was to blow up the fort during the seige. Col. Pinck Eaton was sent round with a small detachment with fifteen or eighteen men to a marsh or swamp near the British Fort to draw the attention of the British to that quarter, there were also three men sent to set fire to the British redoubts - Col. Pinck Eaton and all his men except three got killed in that service, he thinks the three men sent to set fire to the redoubt were killed also. After remaining at Ninety Six from three to five weeks the British were reinforced and General Green retired with the Force under his command. We march from point to point watching the motions of the enemy until the two armies met at Eutaw Springs where they had a severe engagement. This applicant was taken sick and was stationed at the house of one Spinks with eight or ten invalids in consequence of which he was not in that engagement. He remained at this place until his term or service expired and was there discharged as he thinks by Captain Joshua Hadley which he has lost. When he was discharged he had not recovered his health and was scarcely able to walk.

He was upwards of two hundred miles from home and was a month or more after he received his discharge before he arrieves? at home making a period of thirteen months or more he served this tour counting the time he left home until he returned which added to the former three months making sixteen months he was

in service of the United States. He cannot recollect the precise day he entered the service the last time but thinks it must be sometime in May 1781. He was employed as a drummer and was sometimes attached to Capt. Joshua Hadley's Company and sometimes to Capt. William Lytle's company.

In addition to the officers he has already named he also knew Captain Coleman, Capt. Armstrong, Capt. Hatcher, Col. Mabry, Col. Washington and Col. Lee of the light horse. He has seen General Marion but never was with him in service, he was also acquainted with Genl. Green the commander of the division, he cannot state the day he was discharged from either of the terms of his service. He further states he was born on the 30th March 1762 in Edgecome, North Carolina as he has been informed by his parents, he has a record of his birth in a book at home which was put down as he has always been informed by his Grandfather on his mothers side, Cornelius Jordan, a few hours after his birth. When he grew up he bought the book in which his birth was recorded at the sale of his Grand Father's property after his death and owns it yet. He lived in Edgecome County when he entered the service, before the close of the war, however, there was a new county established called Ash County, it included the place where he lived. He resided in said county until the year 1808, as well as he now recollects when he removed to Tennessee and settled near the line of Rutherford and Wilson counties but rather in the Rutherford side where he has remained ever since. He states his residence is somewhat nearer Lebanon than Murfreesbourgh and the clergyman that is best acquainted with him lived in Wilson whose affidavit accompanies this declaration and who could not go

with him conveniety to Murfreesborough is the reason he applies at this court.

He further states he is known by Rev. Joshua Woolen, Moses Woolen, John Curry, Augusta Edwards and Glower W. Banton, Esquire and a great many others in his neighborhood. All he believes would testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. He further states that he has no documentry evidence and he know of no person living at this time whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. He hereby relenquished every claim whatever to a pension or annenty except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state whatever.

his
Cornelius X Sanders.
mark

subscribed and sworn this 25th
day of October 1832

Wm. Martin clerk of the circuit
court of Law & Equity for the County
of Wilson in the eleventh judicial
circuit.

We Joshua Woolen a clergyman residing in the county of Wilson, State of Tennessee and Moses Woolen residing in the same county and state hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Cornelieus Sanders who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration. That we believe him to be 70 years of age. That he is respected and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the revolution and that we concur in that opinion.

Joshua Woolen
Moses Woolen

Subscribed & sworn to the

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